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NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2002
6:00 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

1. **ROLL CALL**

   These items will be available for review at McLaren Lodge, 501 Stanyan St., Commission Room. Public testimony on each item on the agenda will be permitted prior to or during consideration of that item.

2. **INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

3. **OPENING REMARKS BY GENERAL MANAGER**

4. **PRESENTATION OF OPEN MEETING REQUIREMENTS**
   Presentation by City Attorney and discussion only of the requirements of the Sunshine Ordinance and the Brown Act. (DISCUSSION ONLY)

5. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**
   Election of Officers of the Dog Advisory Committee. (ACTION ITEM)

6. **PROPOSED NEW DOG PLAY AREAS**
   Discussion and possible action to approve the proposed new Dog Play Areas. (ACTION ITEM)

7. **ENFORCEMENT POLICY**
   Discussion and possible action to approve and recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission an enforcement policy. (ACTION ITEM)

8. **TIMED USE CONCEPT**
   Presentation and by Recreation and Park Department staff and discussion only of a draft timed use concept. A recommendation of timed used to be voted on at the October meeting and forwarded to the Recreation and Park Commission. (DISCUSSION ONLY)

9. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
   At this time members of the public may address the Committee on items that are the subject matter jurisdiction of the Dog Advisory Committee.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

FAX: (415) 831-2099
Phone: (415) 831-2700

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All staff background information for items listed on this agenda are located at McLaren Lodge, 501 Stanyan Street, Office of the Southern Superintendent.

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San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

September 05, 2002

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DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, September 5, 2002
County Fair Building
Minutes of 1st Advisory Meeting

PRESENT: Ten members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:

Police Officer John Denny (for Sgt. Herndon), SF Police Department

Hilary Amsberry, SF Department of the Environment

Carl Friedman, Animal Care & Control

Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society

Randy Zebell, California Native Plant Society

Donald Bird, EQUP

Lisa Vittori, SF DOG

Ed Sayres, SF SPCA

Erin Farrell, PAWS

Mary Beth Wallace, Coleman Advocates

Representing Recreation and Park Group were:

Elizabeth Goldstein

Dan McKenna

Frank Cassinelli

Lemar Morrison

ABSENT: Dog Advisory Committee Member, Michael Weisman, SF Veterinarian Medical Association

The meeting commenced at 6:00 pm with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. Frank Cassinelli and Lemar Morrison were also introduced as the two

working Recreation and Park staff who will be working with the Committee. Frank and Lemar introduced themselves and how they could be reached.

Elizabeth Goldstein, General Manager, appreciated the public and the Committee members coming on to take this task. She outlined the process that led to the Dog Policy and stated the Department's work towards a citywide dog policy for an extended period of time. The Commission adopted the policy on May 8, 2002, while the Board of Supervisors has introduced an Ordinance to initially draft and codify the Citywide Draft Policy.

Ms. Goldstein went on to describe the role of the Commission in relation to the Department including the development of various policies and the associated implementation of those policies by the Department. She also stated the Commission's desire to craft this policy as a flexible and dynamic document.

Ed Olsen introduced himself as a Deputy City Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco and defined his role in the City Attorney's Office. Part of the City Attorney's responsibility is to provide for training and obligations under the open meeting laws. The Dog Advisory Committee, as a part of a Committee of the Recreation and Park Commission, is required to comply with two laws. The first is the Brown Act. It is a State law that deals with open meetings. The second law is the Sunshine Ordinance that deals with open meetings, public records (Chapter 67). Mr. Olsen then presented a synopsis of the Sunshine Ordinance, including: 1) schedules, 2) deadlines, and 3) definitions. He stated if questions should come up, please feel free to give him a call at 554-4679.

What followed was a series of questions and answers from both the Committee members and the public:

Carl Friedman: When we get calls about dog meetings with police officers, is that considered a serial meeting?

Ed Olsen: Where that line is drawn is not always clearly marked. Please be careful not to involve any more members than is necessary.

Citizen: Like to make a comment on Item No. 2 and also the Sunshine Ordinance. What documentation can we get with reference to general documents on the website? We would like to see the full information on website.

Elizabeth Goldstein: We will try to get the minutes on the website.

Question: What constitutes a quorum?

Answer: The Committee consists of 11 people. In order to act on the agenda, we need 6 people on this Committee to constitute a quorum.

Citizen: What about note taking?

Ed Olsen: A disabled person can request for a note taker. Draft minutes will be available for public inspection 10 days after the meeting.

Ed Olsen: He summarized the Department's requirements.

Question: Can some information on a document be claimed to be private material?

Ed Olsen: Some personal or private information can be withheld, such as social security numbers or personnel information.

Question: Are all public documents considered public? How long are those records to be kept?

Ed Olsen: As a general rule of thumb, the Department has a retention policy as to how long records should be kept.

Citizen: Several letters were submitted tonight as public testimony of people who couldn't be here and I am wondering if that could be part of the public record, and if that is something we should encourage people to do more. I am assuming many people who are here are going to speak tonight, but many more won't.

Elizabeth Goldstein: Yes, but make sure to block out addresses, phone numbers, etc.

Citizen: There are action items to be voted on. If a Committee member cannot attend, does the person taking the place have the same voting right as the Committee member?

Ed Olsen: We will get back to you on that one.

Citizen: Does the Sunshine Ordinance also apply one way or another to the organization that is part of this? In other words, if we correspond with SF DOG? How transparent do they have to be?

Ed Olsen: The rule of thumb is that any letter sent to a public organization is part of a public record.

Citizen: How do these people get appointed to the DAC.

Elizabeth Goldstein: The policy actually asks the General Manager to appoint organizations to serve on the Committee. It did not specify whom you might appoint to the Committee.

Lisa Vittori:: The truth is that we don't have our Ps & Qs lined up. We are not in a position to vote legally. We really need to be sure that we are all in the right place at the right time, the right people to vote, with our documents lined up for people to vote before we do anything.

Elizabeth Goldstein: The Committee obviously can determine what it wants to do tonight, and any items can be tabled for future meetings if you choose to do that. It is clearly your jurisdiction.

Erin Farrell: PAWS is listed as Pets Are Wonderful Supports. The policy incorrectly identified the PAWS acronym.

Lisa: In terms of voting anything tonight, I would like to evaluate it, vote on it, but I am not in a position to know that.

Elizabeth Goldstein: If anyone has public comments on item 1, 2 and 3 we will certainly recognize them now.

Hilary Amsberry: How many members of this Committee are against "off leash"? If the concern is that we are not representing on leash, we would like some clarification of

"off leash".

Mary Beth Wallace: We are all ready to vote

Citizen: What is EQUP?

Donald Bird: Environmental Quality for Urban Parks.

Lisa Vittori: I am an environmentalist and I have worked in the field for 20 years. I tried to join EQUP but was not permitted. I was wondering whether EQUP is really working or are they just keeping dogs out of the park? If that is the case, then it is not an organization that is here to ensure off leash recreation.

Donald Bird: We have a large membership. We are concerned about the California Environmental Quality Act.

Elizabeth Goldstein: I like to move on to the next agenda Item No. 5, which is the election of officers.

Lisa Vittori: I would just like to respond to a request to EQUP. How actively interested are you at improving the quality of the parks?

Donald Bird: We feel very strongly about creating off leash dog areas in San Francisco. We need help to establish a written policy to include off-leash dog areas in our parks

Mary Beth Wallace: I am a dog owner and also a parent.

Lisa Vittori: I am responding to your opening remarks. I'm Lisa Vittori and I represent SF DOG. I don't think this is a policy, which actually reflects the number of comments that the dog policy received.

Renee Pittin: I am the Legislative Assistant to Supervisor Leland Yee. Supervisor Yee has submitted legislation regarding off leash dog issues that will reflect a true public process. This pending legislation should now take precedence.

Elizabeth Goldstein: The Recreation and Park Commission adopted the policy which is consistent with the existing laws of the City and County of San Francisco. There is no way that our policy undermines the public's ability to respond to Supervisor Yee's policy before the Board..

Lisa Vittori: I disagree with you, and right now we are on Item 3.

Elizabeth Goldstein: I would like to ask the Committee if we are ready to move on to Item No. 5, the Election of the Officers. Is there anyone who wants to nominate a chair for this Committee?

Mary Beth Wallace: I nominate Ed Sayres.

Elizabeth Goldstein: Any other nominations? Ed, are you willing to accept the nomination?

Ed Sayres: Certainly. I am very new at this. I am certainly willing to give this a try and be prepared to take action.

Donald Bird: I would like to nominate Arthur Feinstein as vice chairman?

Elizabeth Goldstein: Can Legal folks give me a sense of whether we are obligated to have a vice chair? Any public comments to this item?

Ed Olsen: It is up to the Committee

Elizabeth Goldstein: Can we wait for the next meeting. Is there any public comment on this item?

Citizen: We would like Mr. Sayres to decline.

Carl Friedman: Maybe Ed could chair this meeting and wait until next time to decide.

Elizabeth Goldstein: I am going to ask Ed again. The chair of the Committee will set agendas, determine what items should be heard before the Committee, make recommendations to the rest of the body, deal with parliamentary procedures, obviously with the assistance of the City Attorney's office and the staff, and be in charge of establishing Committee assignments.

Ed Sayres: I appreciate consideration of the issue within the Committee and my acceptance in the chair role. At this moment of time I realize a polarized situation. I will give this a try.

Elizabeth Goldstein: Do we have a formal role call. All in favor of Ed Sayres please raise your hand. Those opposed, please raise you hand.

Ed Sayres was unanimously voted as President.

Arthur Feinstein: I would like you to put off the rest of the agenda until we have more time to review the material for next time and to set up a date for the next meeting, and then at the next meeting we can achieve something.

Elizabeth Goldstein: We will give you back all the information 4 days in advance of the next meeting.

Lisa Vittori: Does anyone have a proposal on the balance of the agenda?

Arthur Feinstein: Proposed Items No.6, 7, & 8 be tabled.

Item No. 6, 7, 7 8 were unanimously approved to be tabled.

Elizabeth Goldstein: We do not anticipate that this Committee will be asked to identify specific communities for dog play areas, but how do you want to go with the public process? We are not asking you to unilaterally approve the process. We want to know how you want us to structure the evaluation of specific new areas.

Citizen: What are we going to discuss regarding the dog play area? Do you have some proposed areas to consider?

Elizabeth Goldstein: What the Department intended to do this evening was to suggest some areas we thought had immediate community consensus and to discuss what the community process might look like.

Lisa Vittori: I would like more time (a week, two weeks ahead of time). We need to conduct meetings with more community input. Can we eliminate items on the agenda and move forward to something else

Citizen: We need to have flexibility of some hours for off leash dogs.

Citizen: I am a regular professional dog walker, but the hours are between 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM for dog walkers. I would like consideration for professional dog walkers.

Elizabeth Goldstein: I appreciate your interest. We are looking into our Permits/Reservations policies and are working with PRO DOG.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion for adjournment was made by Ms. Goldstein and seconded by Mr. Sayres. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

NEXT MEETING: TBD, Recorded 9/13/02

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NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2002
6:00 PM
Randall Museum, Theatre
199 Musuem Way

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AGENDA

1. **ROLL CALL**
   These items will be available for review at McLaren Lodge, 501 Stanyan St., Commission Room. Public testimony on each item on the agenda will be permitted prior to or during consideration of that item.

2. **APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2002, MINUTES (ACTION ITEM)**

3. **COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**
   Committee Members' Position Statements and Staff Reports. **(PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ONLY)**

4. **PRESENTATION OF OUTREACH PROCEDURES**
   Presentation by Department staff for outreach and approval procedures related to establishing new or revised off-leash areas within city parks. **(ACTION ITEM)**

5. **PRESENTATION OF NEW OFF-LEASH AREAS**
   Presentation by Department staff for the establishment of new off-leash Dog Play Areas at the following parks:
   Alamo Square
   Douglass Playground
   Kite Hill
   (ACTION ITEM)

6. **ENFORCEMENT POLICY**
   Discussion and possible action to approve and recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission an enforcement policy. **(ACTION ITEM)**

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
   At this time members of the public may address the Committee on items that are the subject matter jurisdiction of the Dog Advisory Committee.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street
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NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2003
6:30 PM
STERN GROVE TROCADERO
19th Avenue & Sloat Boulevard

AGENDA

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1. ROLL CALL
2. INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS
3. COMMITTEE TRAINING
4. PUBLIC COMMENT
5. ADJOURNMENT

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501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

Phone: (415) 831-2700
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DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, April 23, 2003

Trocadero House, Sigmund Stern Grove

Minutes of 3rdst Advisory Meeting

PRESENT: Eight members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:

Sgt. William Herndon), SF Police Department

Hilary Amsberry, SF Department of the Environment

Carl Friedman, Animal Care & Control

Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society

Donald Bird, EQUP

Lisa Vittori, SF DOG

Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA

Michael Weisman, S. F. Veterinarian Medical Association

Representing Recreation and Park Group were:

Dan McKenna,

Frank Cassinelli,

Lemar Morrison,

ABSENT: Dog Advisory Committee Member, Mary Beth Wallace, Coleman Advocates

Erin Farrell, PAWS, and Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society

The meeting commenced at 6:40 pm with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. Dan McKenna, Frank Cassinelli, and Lemar Morrison, RPD staff and Chuck Regal, Co-Executive Director Community Boards

Dan McKenna, introduced Mr. Regal who provided a curriculum dedicated to improving communication and decision making skills for the Committee. The first hour and one half were devoted to a presentation by Mr. Regal. The presentation included:

A question for committee members on why they were participating

What type of group is more effective, Harmonious vs. Group experiencing severe Discord, the later being potentially more productive.

He asked the Committee why persevere, because the process will realize shared goals

He then went on to explain the attributes of a Collaborative Group vs. non-Collaborative Group. With an emphasis on the Collaborative Group practicing participation, respect for individual positions, welcoming alternative viewpoints, encouraging the process of decision making, members practicing the art of listening, while appreciating alternative viewpoints, fully discussing issues in a comprehensive manner, not talking behind the back of Committee members, the problem is only solved when all issues are understood and the Committee appreciates the whole ranger of perspectives, he explained how these practices enhanced decision making.

Mr. Regal went on to emphasize creating an environment for a positive meeting with members practicing respect for each other.

The Committee agreed to meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the next three months, with the next meeting in the same location and subsequent meetings moving throughout the City, keep the meetings to two hours, and develop achievable agendas. The Committee then went on to discuss the parameters for future facilitation and the need to produce actual progress related to the purview of the Committee. Dan McKenna stated the General Manager would announce the appointment of one or two chairs for the Committee. It was then decided that staff would create the next agenda, and thereafter a standing item for the Committee would be setting the agenda for the next meeting. It was also agreed that staff would provide the Committee with the agenda and associated information two weeks prior to the next meeting.

General Public Comment was received by the Committee concerning issues related to adequate public notification, Douglas Park, Alamo Square, Enforcement, creating adequate DPAs, balanced decision making by the Committee, and relieving preasure created by the closure of Fort Funston.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 5/13/03

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City and County of San Francisco — Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2003
6:30 PM
STERN GROVE TROCADERO
19th Avenue & Sloat Boulevard

AGENDA

1. ROLL CALL
2. INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS
3. REVIEW/APPROVE NOVEMBER 2002 AND APRIL 2003 MINUTES (Action Item)
4. STAFF REPORT (Discussion Only)
   A. Correspondence
   B. Updates
      - Brotherhood Way DPA
      - Douglass Playground DPA
      - Potrero Hill Playground DPA
      - Pine Lake Park DPA
   C. New, pilot or proposed DPA's (needs community meeting, then DAC and Community Approval)
      - Jefferson Square
      - Washington Square
      - Upper Noe Playground
      - Eureka Valley Playground
      - Lafayette Playground
5. PRESENTATION OF PENDING DOG PLAY AREAS (Action Items)
   A. Crocker Amazon
   B. Alamo Square DPA
6. SETTING NEXT MONTH'S AGENDA
7. PUBLIC COMMENT
8. ADJOURNMENT

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DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, May 13, 2003

Trocadero House, Sigmund Stern Grove

Minutes of 4th Advisory Meeting

- **Roll Call** The meeting commenced at 6:40 pm with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members.

PRESENT: Nine members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:

Hilary Amsberry Co-chair, SF Department of the Environment (HA)

Michael Wiseman Co-ChairS. F. Veterinarian Medical Association (MW)

Carl Friedman, Animal Care & Control (CF)

Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)

Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)

Lisa Vittori, SF DOG (LV)

Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)

Sgt. William Herndon), SF Police Department (WH)

Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW)

Representing Recreation and Park Group were:

Dan McKenna, (DM)

Frank Cassinelli, (FC)

Lemar Morrison, (LM)

ABSENT: Dog Advisory Committee Members, Erin Farrell, PAWS, and Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society

- **Introduction of Committee Chairs:**

MW & HA announced their appointment by Elizabeth Goldstein as co-chairs for the committee and presented ground rules for the members as well as the public. They emphasized respect for all opinions. **DM** informed the members of their role as advisors to the RPD Commission. They stated the members do not have to reach unanimity on an issue and that minority opinions can also be presented to the Commission.

- **Approval of Minutes:**

A motion to approve the minutes was put forward by **AF** and seconded by **CF.** The Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

- **Staff Report:**

DM reported to the Committee on the status of the DPW DPA on Brotherhood Way. **MBW** asked when the DPA would be available. **DB** asked about the size of the area, and **BH** asked about enforcement issues. **DM** responded the DPA should be available by the end of the calendar year, the size was approximately 40,000 square feet, and that enforcement would be similar to existing DPAs managed by RPD. **DM** informed members on the progress of the Upper Douglas DPA related to public meetings held on 12/10/02 and with several concerned community members this past week. He went on to say the issue would be brought to DAC in the month of June. **DM** also updated members on the issue of a new DPA at Potrero Hill and how RPD's Capital Division will look at the entire facility's land use and develop a community process to assess the site. **DM** then spoke about the approved new DPA at Pine Lake Park and illustrated the site via aerial photos. Members asked why this did not come to DAC prior to the Commission and **DM** informed the members that the Master Plan for the Park was initiated prior to the formation of DAC and that in the future DPAs would be broken off from Master Planning efforts and brought to DAC.

LM presented members with an update on a proposal to create a DPA at Jefferson Sq. **MBW** stated her support to have the DPA in the drier area of the Park and **LV** wanted to know of potential park user conflicts and if the area included a walking area. **LM** stated the paved pathway system would be retained and that the park is used for passive recreation without formal programs. **LM** presented information related to a proposal to create a DPA at Washington Sq. and a fenced area for Lafayette Park to protect dogs from vehicular traffic. Several members expressed a need to have a thorough public process for the Lafayette fence issue. **MW** thought the park was too small and could create a hazardous situation while **LV** thought the Park might be a site for shared use.

Public Comment:

Public comments included the following:

Few parks and open spaces exist within the area of Douglas Park and that Christopher Playground does not allow off-leash activities. The DPA at Pine Lake was created because of significant concessions from the community and enforcement will be needed to make the DPA work. It was also noted that because an athletic field is not in an ideal location, this should not be a reason to decommission the site and turn it over to off-leash activities. Washington Sq. has too many uses for a small site and Pioneer or Ferry Parks should be considered. DPAs should always be as large as possible. A homeless problem exists at Jefferson that is a problem for all park users including off-leash park users. The Department and Coleman Advocates have alienated the community in Eureka Valley because of the Dog Policy. We should invest in training those dog owners who do not abide by the rules. Fencing at Lafayette is important on the Gough and Sacramento frontages.

5. Presentation of Pending DPAs

DM presented the results of a public meeting held on 4/14/03 at Crocker Amazon and attended by approximately 75 community members. He detailed the general layout of the Park, the location of the proposed DPA and introduced Mr. Steve Currier, of the Outer Mission Residents Association. Mr. Currier informed members of the outreach efforts and the general consensus for the creation of the DPA. **LV**inquired about the public process and Mr. Currier detailed the number of meetings, the lack of any objections save one community member, and the belief that this will be a positive development for the community.

Public Comment:

What is the relationship between the existing children's playground and the proposed DPA. **LM** responded that a significant buffer existed as well as mature landscaping to

shield the playground from the DPA.

CF put forth a motion to recommend to the Commission the creation of a DPA at Crocker Amazon as presented by RPD staff. The motion was seconded by **AF** and approved 8 to 0 with **LV**abstaining.

LM presented the staff recommendation for a DPA at Alamo Sq. He detailed three options presented at a community meeting held in December 2002 and presented the justification for the recommendation of option #2 (small size of Option #1, access from the western side of the park, a change in the historical character of the Park, and an extensive gating system would be needed in option #3 to allow access from the Western side of the Park).

Public Comment:

The public felt the public process was flawed because of notification lapses and that the issue was biased towards the creation of a DPA. Statements included the usable area in #2 was less than half the size of the 4 acres, a large area is needed because of the heavy level of users. Off-leash users did not conflict with other park uses, while other community members felt that off-leash use prevented other uses because of feces and urine contamination of the turf.

Members then debated how the public should provide comments to members and debated the merits of each of the options. Members stated the change of park use was a historical change to the site, given the number of off-leash users a large area was needed, access from all park areas should not be through a DPA, enforcement should be transparent for SFPD and park users, the slopes actually cut down on usable acreage, and the public could always access the park utilizing sidewalks.

A motion to recommend to the Commission the adoption of option #3 (create the DPA in the western half of the Park) was put forward by **CF** and seconded by **WH.** A vote was taken to approve the motion with **LV, LK, WH, HA, MW & CF** in favor & **MBW, DB, & AF** opposed.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 6/10/03 at Upper Noe Recreation Center at Day Street & Sanchez Street.

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City and County of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

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NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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JUN 10 2003

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TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2003
6:30 PM
UPPER NOE RECREATION CENTER
Day & Sanchez Streets

AGENDA

1. **Roll Call (Action Item)**

2. **Ground Rules, Process for Public Comment and Roberts Rules of Order (Discussion Item) [5 minutes].**

3. **Approval of May Meeting Minutes (Action Item) [5 minutes].**

4. **RPD REPORT (Discussion Only) [5 minutes]**
   A. **General Update/Commission Findings**
   B. **Set Dates for community meetings for Eureka Playground and Lafayette Park.**

5. **Upper Noe Playground DPA -- Review and possible approval of proposed DPA. (Action Item). Note: RPD presentation should last only 5 minutes [25 minutes].**

6. **Jefferson Square DPA - Review and possible approval of proposed DPA. (Action Item) Note: RPD presentation should last only 5 minutes [25 minutes].**

7. **Douglas Playground DPA -- Review and possible approval of proposed DPA. (Action Item) Note: RPD presentation should last only 5 minutes [25 minutes]**

8. **Set next meeting's date and agenda. (Action Item) [5 minutes]**

9. **Public Comment. [30 minutes]**

10. **Adjournment**

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

Tel: (415) 831-2700
Fax: (415) 221-8034

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084.

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San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

June 10, 2003

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DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Upper Noe Recreation Center

Minutes of 5th Advisory Meeting

1. **Roll Call** The meeting commenced at 6:35 PM with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members.

PRESENT: Eight members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:

Michael Wiseman Co-ChairS. F. Veterinarian Medical Association (MW)

Carl Friedman, Animal Care & Control (CF)

Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)

Lisa Vittori, SF DOG (LV)

Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)

Sgt. William Herndon), SF Police Department (WH)

Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW)

Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)

Representing Recreation and Park Group were:

Dan McKenna, (DM)

Frank Cassinelli, (FC)

ABSENT: Dog Advisory Committee Members, Hilary Amsberry Co-chair, SF Department of the Environment (HA), Erin Farrell, PAWS, and Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)

2. **Ground Rules, (Discussion Introduction of Committee Chairs):**

MW announced the resignation of Erin Farrell from PAWS and will seek another recommendation from the group for Elizabeth Goldstein's consideration. He also noted the ground rules for both members and the public including issues of mutual respect as well as how the public must submit speaker's cards. **LV** asked when by-

rules for the Committee will be established and **MW** responded that the Committee will work on this in the near-future. **DB** passed out an evaluation check list for the members to use when evaluating proposed DPAs.

3. Approval of Minutes:

DB noted that the minutes did not include his motion to approve Option #2 for the creation of a DPA at Alamo Sq. which was seconded by **LV**. He also noted that an extensive debate followed the motion without the Committee voting on the motion. A motion to approve the minutes as amended was put forward by **MW** and seconded by **DB**. The Committee voted 7 to 0 with an abstention by **LV** to approve the minutes as amended.

4. Staff Report:

DM reported to the Committee on the status of the DAC recommendations to the Commission with the Crocker recommendation unanimously sent to the full Commission on the consent calendar and the Alamo recommendation being sent to the full Commission on the general calendar by a vote of 2 to 1. **DM** also informed the members that in the future recommendations from the Committee would be part of the Commission write-up with staff recommendations rather than as an attachment to the write-up.

5. Upper Noe Playground DPA

FC presented the results of a public meeting held on 5/20/03 at Fairmont School and attended by approximately 40 community members. He detailed the general layout of the Park, the location of the proposed DPA including proposed new amenities and potential surface treatments. He also indicated that the proposal now included the Day St. frontage because the 30th St. frontage must accommodate ADA pathways for the athletic field.

MBW stated that lighting should not disturb adjoining neighbors and the surface should be pea gravel and not DG, but that it should be cleaned easily. She also felt many community liked the space and used it on a regular basis and was a good example of a small recreational space serving many diverse interests. **LV** felt the area was a failure as a pilot project, had continuing gate problems, questioned if the costs for the improvements are in place, lack of community involvement and needed more input and planning and could be done better, and wanted the DPA to include a portion of the outfield. **MW** wanted to know if the site met the minimum size requirements and would look at the issues related to surfacing after **DM** informed the group about his visit to Redwood City's DPA surfaced with Sport Turf. **MH** felt the DPA should not include the outfield and the fence needed to remain and the bulletin board was a good idea. **WH** felt that professional dog walkers are an asset but needed to be regulated like any business. **DB** wanted to know who is the support group for the DPA and also wanted to explore a surface used by the SPCA and wanted two entrances and exits with dbl. gates and **LK** explained this was a temporary surface. **LV** and **MBW** felt the existing park support group could organize a volunteer committee.

Public Comment:

Look forward to improvements and new amenities, should be as large as possible and liked the idea of using Day St. Surfacing materials desired included grass. Area should be shared use with athletic field users. Not too many benches because the site is small. Waste should be collected so neighbors are not impacted and lights should

not bother the neighbors. Develop a policy regulating the number of dogs in the DPA at one time. MW to make a recommendation related to carrying capacity.

LV put forth a motion to recommend to the Commission the creation of a DPA at Upper Noe and for the Department to work on the details.

MBW put forth a motion for the Department to explore surfacing and amenity issues once the user group is identified.
DB seconded the motion and the Committee recommended the action to the Commission by a vote of 8 to 0.

6. Jefferson Square

DM presented the Committee with seven options for the creation of a DPA in Jefferson Square.

Option #1 10,000 square foot area in the Northwest quarter of the Park

Option # 2 11,000 square foot area in the middle of the western half of the Park

Option #3 18,000 square foot area in the eastern section of the park next to Turk St.

Option #4 30,000 square foot area in the middle of the western half of the Park

Option #5 40,000 square foot area in the middle of the western half of the Park

Option #6 Approximately 60,000 square foot area which is a combination of 2 and 5 plus additional area adjacent to Turk St. with pathways still available to non-DPA users.

Option #7 the entire western half of the Park

Option #8 the entire eastern half of the Park.

The Committee eliminated Options 1, 2, 3 & 7 from consideration and then commenced discussing the merits of the remaining options. **LV** on behalf of SF Dog stated her group's support for the entire west side of the Park. **DB & MW** discussed the merits of options 4 and 5 with **MBW** stating the DPA should provide adequate square footage, but not be excessive.

Public Comment:

The majority of public comments included requests for option 6, 4, 5, with little or no support for 2 or 3. Comments were also submitted related to changing the classification of the park to include Margaret Hayward Playground so barriers would not be required. **DM** clarified that the Policy states physical barriers are required which does not necessarily include chain link fences, he stated that many options are available. The public further stated that the east side was not desirable because of the steep grades and anti-social behavior within that area of the Park. The issue of equitable enforcement was also presented to the Community.

MW polled members for the preferences on the remaining options.

LK felt #6 was best because of the pathway delineation.

LV voted for the entire west side of the Park.

DB voted for #4 with the use of a hedge for the physical barrier, but #5 was doable

CF submitted a written response because he had to leave and voted for #2

MBW felt either 4 or 5 would provide a usable space and not eliminate other open space uses, but the community should have input on the type of barrier

MH felt that that #5 is an adequate space and that #6 required non DPA users to the perimeter of the Park.

WH felt that #6 spread the impact of the DPA throughout the area and would be easier to maintain and enforce.

MW #5 was best, but wanted to investigate the type of barrier to be used.

A motion was presented by **DB** and seconded by **MH** for #5. The Committee voted in favor of #5 (**MH, MW, MBW, & DB**) against (**LV, WH, & LK**).

7. Douglass Playground

DM summarized the community meeting last fall which indicated a preference for the use of the field and that the site was rarely used by permitted teams for games. He confirmed the staff investigation which indicated less than 50 permits issued annually because of the small size and the poor drainage. He went on to introduce Mr. Collins who represented many community members and the meeting with staff. Based upon the input and investigation the staff recommended the creation of a DPA on the athletic field with the elimination of the site as a permitted athletic field. The ball diamond would be retained for casual (non-permitted use) and the DPA would comprise the entire area.

DB asked how an area was eliminated from the permitted field list and was informed that the Commission through this proposed action could change the official land use. Staff informed him with Upper Noe, Eureka Valley and Christopher the community was well served with athletic fields. **MH** asked if teams need permits and was informed they do to conduct official league games and practices. **LV** stated her support for the proposal, but the area need new amenities including lighting etc. **MBW** stated her support for the proposal, because Christopher was close and that this would be an example of shared use.

Public Comment:

General coments of support for the proposal and the commitment by the community to start a fund raising campaign as well as volunteer support group.

MBW offerred a motion to recommend the site for a DPA, which was seconded by LV. The Committee voted 5 to 1 in favor, with **DB** against.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 7/22/03 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium (9th and Lincoln Way).

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City and County of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

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NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2003
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Approval of June 10, 2003 Minutes**
3. **General RPD update. (Discussion only) [5 minutes]**
4. **Establish/ Clarify DAC bylaws and proceedings. (Discussion only; note that action items on topic may be postponed for future meeting) [40 minutes]**
5. **Establish consistent DAC meeting schedule and location from hereon to be the 2nd Tuesday of each month. (Action Item) [10 minutes]**
6. **Improvement of RPD notification process for DAC meetings. (Action Item) [40 minutes]**
7. **Set next meeting's date and agenda. (Discussion only) [5 minutes]**
8. **Public comment. [20 minutes]**
9. **Adjournment**

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

FAX: (415) 221-8034
Phone: (415) 831-2700

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July 22, 2003

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DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, July 22, 2003

County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 6th Advisory Meeting

1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:40 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

PRESENT: Eight members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:

Michael Wiseman Co-ChairS. F. Veterinarian Medical Association (MW)

Hilary Amsberry Co-chair, SF Department of the Environment (HA)

Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)

Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)

Lisa Vittori, SF DOG (LV)

Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)

Andrea Brooks, PAWS (AB)

Representing Recreation and Park Group were:

Dan McKenna, (DM)

ABSENT: Dog Advisory Committee Members, Carl Friedman, Animal Care & Control (CF), Erin Farrell, PAWS, Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK) Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW),and Sgt. William Herndon), SF Police Department (WH)

2. Approval of June 10, 2003 Minutes (Action Item)

DM announced that the minutes were inadvertently left out of the members packets and would be included in the August 12, packet for review and approval. In the meantime, they have been posted on the Department's Web site in draft form.

3. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM stated that the Planning Department had reviewed the request for a categorical exemption under CEQA for five proposed DPAs at Alamo, Jefferson, Upper Noe, Crocker and Douglass Parks. The Planning Department approved the request. He further noted that the Commission had approved the creation of DPAs for Douglass and Crocker Amazon Parks and would review the proposed DPA for Jefferson at their 8/6 Parks and Planning Committee Meeting. Alamo Square will be reviewed for final consideration by the Full Commission at either its August or September meeting, while Upper Noe is undergoing further review and planning with an additional community meeting planned for 8/20 and Commission review in September. **DM** also indicated that because of the Department's budget cuts he will be the sole staff member for the next few months that will be working with the DAC. He requested the Committee's assistance related to composing the Committee's minutes and related support work.

DB requested information and topographical maps concerning what the Department considers to be usable space at Alamo Sq. and wondered if criteria could be established related to usable grades etc. **AF** felt the Department should create criteria for usable space. **MW** felt all members should visit sites under consideration for DPAs. **LV** felt that this should be part of the by-laws for the DAC. She also asked **DM** for the actual process for approving a DPA. **DM** informed the group that after DAC proposed a DPA it would then be reviewed by City Planning, presented to the Parks and Planning Committee of the Rec/Park Commission and then onto the full Commission for final determination.

4. Establish/Clarify **DAC By-laws and Proceedings (Discussion Only)**

M W presented to the Committee a draft of proposed by-laws (attached). Members discussed section 4.3 of the Dog Policy related to membership, the representative organizations truly promoting park advocacy and the role of the Committee as advisors to the Department. It was further stated that the General Manager makes all appointments to DAC, but will consider recommendations from the Committee.

MW and **HA** both assured members that the Policy can be amended through the Commission and at some point the Committee will make specific recommendations for amendments, but at the present time the Committee was charged with implementing the policy in its present form. **AF** concurred that it was important to follow the Policy when adopting the new by-laws. **DM** summarized the role of the DAC in relationship with RPD. He stated that changes in the policy were always anticipated and the role of DAC was to provide input to the Commission when Policy changes were contemplated.

LV asked about specific qualifications of organizations represented on the Committee, specifically EQUP. **MW** informed her that this was an inappropriate topic under the agenda. At this point **DB** and **AF** left the meeting and the Committee's quorum was lost. Since the DAC did not have a quorum, **MW** suspended the remainder of the Agenda until next month's meeting August 12th at the County Fair Bldg.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 8/12/03 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

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NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2003
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of June 10, 2003 & July 22, 2003 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [5 minutes]
4. Establish/ Clarify DAC bylaws and proceedings. (Discussion only; note that action items on topic may be postponed for future meeting) [40 minutes]
5. Establish consistent DAC meeting schedule and location from hereon to be the 2nd Tuesday of each month. (Action Item) [10 minutes]
6. Improvement of RPD notification process for DAC meetings. (Action Item) [40 minutes]
7. Set next meeting's date and agenda. (Discussion only) [5 minutes]
8. Public comment. [20 minutes]
9. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

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1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102-4689, Office: (415) 554-7724, (FAX): (415) 554-7854, (E-mail): Donna_Hall@ci.sf.ca.us

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San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

August 12, 2003

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DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, August 12, 2003

County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 7th Advisory Meeting

1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:35 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

PRESENT: Eight members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:

Michael Wiseman Co-ChairS. F. Veterinarian Medical Association (MW)

Hilary Amsberry Co-chair, SF Department of the Environment (HA)

Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)

Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)

Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)

Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)

Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)

Carl Friedman Animal Care & Control (CF)

Sgt. William Herndon), SF Police Department (WH)

Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW),

ABSENT: Andrea Brooks, PAWS (AB)

Representing Recreation and Park Group were:

Dan McKenna, (DM)

HA announced her resignation from the DAC and introduced Tamar Hurwitz **(TH)** as the new Department of the Environment representative. **TH** briefly introduced herself to the DAC and explained her role in the Department as the Manager of the Education program.

2. Approval of June 10, 2003& July 22, 2003Minutes (Action Item)

MW made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by **HA** and unanimously approved by the DAC.

Public Comment: A member of the public felt the June and July minutes did not accurately reflect the proceedings of the DAC.

3. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM informed the members that the RPD Commission passed Jefferson Squares proposed DPA as recommended by DAC, held over the Alamo issue until the full Commission meeting on 9/18/03, and tabled the Upper Noe proposal for further review with the community related to surfacing and footprint. DM presented DAC with a sample of the new synthetic 'Field Turf', and explained the installation and general qualities. **MW** will investigate potential toxic issues with the product and visit installations in the Bay Area

4. Establish/Clarify DAC By-laws and Proceedings (Discussion Only)

M W presented to the Committee a draft of proposed by-laws. Members asked if the document would be reviewed by the City Attorney and **MBW** and **DM** felt it most likely would. **AF** suggested that the document should strictly reflect the Dog Policy. DAC members voiced the following concerns related to the document and agreed to deletions and additions that strictly dealt with the manner the DAC conducts its business.

- Terms for members would be annually renewed during the month of September, but as suggested by **BH** can be extended beyond a one year appointment
- The group should provide input to the GM, this issue endorsed by **CF** was not agreed to by the DAC as a whole with **AF** feeling issues under the purview of the Department General Manager (GM) should remain silent in the by-laws.
- The group agreed to appoint a vice chair and recording secretary, but acknowledged that the GM would appoint the Chair.
- The issue of member attendance was debated and finally agreed that the Chair would provide the GM and the Commission with a record of the members attendance.
- After a discussion of mandatory visits to parks under consideration by the DAC, **AF** suggested the by-laws should encourage members to visit sites under consideration.
- The members agreed to try and keep the meetings at two hours
- The DAC felt all issues directly related on how business is conducted would remain, but felt that the by-laws should include language related to mutual respect.
- The DAC then debated the need to provide dissenting opinions to the Commission, **KM** felt that the dissenting opinions should be optional and not required. **DB** felt both opinions were useful for the Commission, while **AF** stated that this provided a means for all sides to express their opinions publicly and in the long-term keep a sense of unity amongst the DAC members.
- Many of the other draft portions of the by-laws will be deleted because *Roberts Rules*, which will provide guidance in parliamentary procedures, covers many

of the issues.

Public Comment:

Wanted terms for members

Minutes should be verbatim to accurately record DAC business

Important for members to visit parks under review

Must refer to the specific edition of *Roberts Rules*

Wanted alternate location for meetings because of acoustics

Two hours is not enough for DAC meetings

Wants all DAC view points available for the public and the Commission

5. Establish consistent DAC meeting schedule and location from heron to be the 2nd Tueday of each month. (Action Item)

This item was discussed and agreed to during the discussion of Item 4 but not voted upon

6. Improvement of RPD notification process for DAC meetings. (Action Item)

This item was tabled by a motion from **HA** with a 2nd from **AF. DM** was requested to include the draft notification procedures in the September packet.

7. Set next meeting's date and agenda. (Discussion only)

Without a vote it was agreed that the DAC would meet at the following dates at the County Fair Bldg. Auditorium and that **DM** would provide microphones for the DAC and the public.

9/9/03
10/14/03
11/11/03
12/9/03

The next agenda would finalize the by-laws, start a discussion of professional dog walkers, standardize the public notification procedures and start the discussion on enforcement.

8. Public Comment

Members must visit parks under review

Insufficient notices by RPD for all public meetings related to DAC issues

Should start the meeting with how the green speaker cards work

Want a different meeting place

Public wants a copy of Commissions reports from RPD staff

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 9/9/03 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

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City and County of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

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NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2003
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

1. Roll Call

2. Approval of August 12, 2003 Minutes

3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [5 minutes]

4. Establish/ Clarify DAC bylaws and proceedings. (Action Item) [20 minutes]

5. Development of Enforcement strategies for the RPD Dog Policy. (Action Item) [30 minutes]

6. Improvement of RPD notification process for DAC meetings. (Discussion Only) [20 minutes]

7. Development of recommendations for the regulation of professional dog walkers in DPAs. (Discussion only) [30 minutes]

8. Public comment. [15 minutes]

9. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

cLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
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San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

September 09, 2003

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 9, 2003

County Fair Bldg.

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Minutes of 8th Advisory Meeting

- **Roll Call** The meeting commenced at 6:30 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

PRESENT: Eight members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:

Michael Wiseman Co-ChairS. F. Veterinarian Medical Association (MW)

Tamar Hurwitz (TH) Co-chair, SF Department of the Environment (HA)

Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)

Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)

Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)

Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)

Carl Friedman Animal Care & Control (CF)

Sgt. William Herndon), SF Police Department (WH)

Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW),

ABSENT: Andrea Brooks, PAWS (AB) & Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)

Representing Recreation and Park:

Dan McKenna, (DM)

MW announced his resignation from DAC effective at the end of the calendar year and noted several corrections to the DAC mailing list.

Public Comment: Proposed that a new chair be appointed immediately representing the youth athletics of the City.

CF announced his resignation from the DAC and introduced Vicky Goldbach (VG) as the new Animal Care & Control representative.

- **Approval of August 22, 2003Minutes (Action Item)**

MW made a motion to approve the minutes without a vote as prescribed under Roberts Rules.

3. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM informed the members that the RPD Commission will continue the Alamo DPA, the Parks and Planning Committee will review the Upper Noe DPA and that a community meeting will be held on 10/1/03 at 6:30 P.M. at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center to discuss the creation of a new DPA. He also informed the Committee that the Department is working with the City of Pacifica to create a new DPA on Department property adjacent to the golf course and asked the Committee to work on the establishment of a support group for the Lafayette DPA.

4. Establish/Clarify DAC By-laws and Proceedings (Action Item)

M W presented to the Committee an edited copy of the proposed DAC by-laws. After reviewing the proposal the following comments and edits were incorporated into the proposal:

KM felt the referenced Roberts Rules of Order edition was not the most current or accessible. **MW** felt that the edition proposed was available on-line and at the Main Library. **MBW** agreed and the DAC agreed to utilize the proposed edition.

AF felt minority and majority opinions related to DPAs should be sent to staff and then made available to all members

KM was concerned about the language in Section 5.d and the Committee agreed to delete the line

DB felt that 5.e should also be deleted because Roberts would cover the issue.

DM noted that speakers' cards could be any color and that public comments can be set from any time but must be consistent throughout the agenda item. **AF** noted that all public comments should be directed to the chair.

DB wants DAC members to be able to interact with staff during their report

AF felt that "expectations" be deleted from 3.d and "Objectives" be changed for responsibilities under 3.d.iii.

Public Comment:

Need more speaker cards, RPD/GM to seek a new chair immediately, Secretary can't listen and take notes, members should attend meetings and be accountable to visit parks, by-laws should be reviewed by legal staff, want the word objective removed from #2 of the by-laws.

Motion:

AF made a motion to move the by-laws as amended to the City Attorney for review and return the document to DAC for final adoption. 2nd by **CF** and passed unanimously.

- **Development of recommendations for the regulation of professional dog walkers in DPAs. (Discussion Only)**

MW presented a proposed draft policy related to the regulation of Professional Dog Walkers. **BH** first questioned the purview of the DAC to develop this policy and then **LK** & **MBW** felt this was consistent with other regulations developed by the RPD such as childcare. **KM** felt that 6.3 of the Dog Policy was sufficient. **BH** was concerned about any enforcement requirements related to Professional Dog Walker policies. **AF** felt the DAC should limit the discussion to fees and that RPD should make a recommendation for review. **CF** clarified the legalities of how many dogs an individual can own in the City (3 unless you have a kennel license), he went on to say the ACC guidelines have been effective and the policy should reflect those guidelines. **CF** stated that at this time, ACC had 50 to 60 Professional Dog Walkers registered. ACC is also working with the Board of Supervisors on an Ordinance for this issue. **MBW** stated that any fees collected should go to the ACC or RPD to further DPA improvements and maintenance. **BH** felt fees should cover administrative costs only and they keep public spaces safer. **AF** stated that Professional Dog Walkers do not benefit the community as a whole, but that insurance requirements are a bit onerous.

Public Comment:

Joe Hague from the ProDog gave a short presentation related to the organization and the benefits Professional Dog Walkers provide to the community.

Vital community service, should have dog license to be in a park, Harassment of humans should be part of the policy, ProDog has the highest standards, should not be on the agenda and leave the issue alone, there is less than 1 bite/day in the City, keep any policy simple, should be brought to the Animal Welfare Commission, and should not set number of dogs under control

Motion:

CF staff to develop a fee proposal in concert with the ACC guidelines, 2nd by **TH** and passed unanimously.

MW stated that Agenda items #5 & 6 be held over until October.

Everyone in attendance at tonight's meeting should receive notification of the Eureka Valley meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 10/14/03 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

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City and County of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, October 14, 2003
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of September 9, 2003 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [5 minutes]
4. Adoption of DAC bylaws and proceedings. (Action Item) [5 minutes]
5. Election of DAC Officers (Action Item) [30 minutes]
6. Improvement of RPD notification process for DAC meetings. (Discussion Only) [20 minutes]
7. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission for the creation of a DPA at Eureka Valley Playground. (Action Item) [45 minutes]
8. Public comment. [15 minutes]
9. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

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501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

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San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

October 14, 2003

DOG ADVISORY COMMITEE MEETING
Tuesday, October 14, 2003
County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 9th Advisory Meeting

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1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:30 PM with roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

PRESENT: Ten members of the Dog Adviasory Committee were present:

Michael Wiseman Co-Chair, SF Veterinarian Medical Association (MW)
Tamar Hurwitz (TH) Co-chair, SF Department of the Environment (HA)
Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)
Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)
Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)
Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)
Vicky Goldbach, Animal Care & Control (VG)
Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW)
Andrea Brooks, PAWS (AB)
Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)

ABSENT: Sgt. William Herdon, SF Police Department (WH)

Representing Recreation & Park:

Dan McKenna, (DM)
Department Guest Candie Matson, was introduced as the Department's field inspector for DPAs

2. Approval of August 22, 2003 Minutes (Action Item)

MW made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendment that nine members were present rather than eight and was then approved without a vote as prescribed under Robert Rules.

3. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM informed the members that the RPD Commission approved a DPA for Alamo Sq. that is a modification of the DAC's recommendation of Option 3. The Option called "3a" is the same as #3, but excluding a small area next to Fulton St. on the northwest side of the parkto afford park users who wish to enter the park not through a DPA. Upper Noe was also approved with additional area included from the DAC recommendation and the Department held a community meeting at Eureka Valley

concerning a potential DPA. **DM** also encouraged the members to review the DPA inventory spreadsheet and stated the Department will start work at Jefferson to design ADA access and barriers with the community.

4. Establish/Clarify DAC By-laws and Proceedings (Action Item)

Motion:

DB made a motion to approve the By-laws as found with a second from **AF.**

Public Comment:

Citizen inquired how the Chair is appointed.

The motion was unanimously approved by the DAC.

5. Election of DAC Officers (Action Item)

Motion:

LK nominated **TH** to the position of Vice-Chair with **DB** seconding the motion.

AB nominated herself to the position of Secretary with **DB** seconding the motion.

Public Comment:

Difficult for members to act as Secretary and be involved in the discussion
PAWS has a poor attendance record
Citizen wants position statement from all new members
Citizen wants a permanent new chair for continuity purposes.

6. Improvement of RPD notification process for DAC meetings. (Discussion Only)

The draft proposal was reviewed by the DAC with the following comments:

AF one week was not sufficient, while **DB** felt a month was needed. **MBW** also felt a month was needed and stated that the meetings should be vetted in the Independent Newspaper and SFUSD Radio calendar. **KM** felt a month was too long, **MF, TH, AF** favored 2 weeks. **MW** questioned how citywide organizations should be notified, while **AF** felt that only those organizations identified in the Dog Policy should received notifications. **AF** also felt that well-known neighborhood bulletin boards should be posted, while **DM** stated the Department would not know those sites in every neighborhood. The DAC settled on two weeks for notifications in all cases with the exception of the Commission meetings. **AF & DB** requested a six-month work plan from the Department. **DM** will work with the DAC officers on the plan and present the draft to the DAC in December.

Public Comment

This meeting does not comply with the Sunshine Ordinance
Should maximize neighborhood notifications
Want all information the DAC received on the Website
Community is apathetic over this issue
Use NPC park user list so all park users will be involved in the decision making

Have photos with the packet

7. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission for the creation of a DPA at Eureka Valley Plaground. (Action Item)

Eureka Valley Playgound: The facility is a small neighborhood recreation center (2 acres) bounded by Collingwood, Diamond and 19th Streets. The park is known for its gymnasium, playground structure, athletic field, excellent recreational programs and providing an open space in a densely populated area of the City. The recreational opportunities are primarily formal and permitted; it also provides recreational opportunities for tennis players and hardscapes for nearby schools.

Approximately two and a half years ago, the Department installed a temporary/pilot DPA between the tennis court and the athletic field. For the most part the area was too small and did not provide an adequate area for off-leash activities. This has led many users to violate the Dog Policy and use the athletic field. As a result, the field has suffered from these activities.

During the past year, the facility's staff monitored the use of the tennis courts and determined that on average less than ten players use this site for tennis games on a daily basis. Supervisorial District 8 is fortunate to have 8 separate facilities for the community's tennis players. At this time, District 8 also has 4 DPA's. However, the District also has one of the highest per capita dog populations in the City. Given these factors the Department is proposing to convert the existing tennis court and foursquare hardscape into a DPA.

Staff met with approximately 63 members of the community on October 1, 2003 with the proposal for the creation fo a Dog Play Area. The size of the proposed Dog Play Area would be approximately 11,000 square feet and be entirely enclosed with a chain link fence (see attached map). The surface material could be a combination of Decomposed granite, hardscape and turf. The Department will continue to engate the community on this issue. Amenities would be installedas the community conducted fund raising drives.

Members of the community were divided in three distinct opinions. Many felt that the tennis courts should not be abandoned for any other use. Others felt that the athletic field should be utilized in a shared use manner. While other members felt that the proposal was a fair compromise for a small park with many divergent uses.

Public Comment

Proposal is against the policy because it removed an existing recreational use
No partner group exists
How about alternative public properties in the District
Demographic for the District has not been substantiated
Tennis is a multi-generational family sport
Many students and schools use the courts
Community needs have changed and DPA is needed because this has been a traditional area for off-leash activities
Change the field size
This is a dangerous trend & bad precendent
CEQA issues and we need more not less courts
USTA will provide funds for court upkeep
Have staff develop new plan and find a reasonable compromise
DPA will serve more users than a tennis court
DAC recommendations don't mean a thing because Commission has the final word
Use part of field and four-square court

DAC members discussion:

AB & AF requested a list of public properties in District 8, **LK & KM** don't want DPAs on trash land, **DB** have staff change the configuration but don't lose the court, **MBW** this is a small site to crowd too many uses into one park that may not be compatible, **TH** both sides of the issue have merit, but should explore addional alternatives, **MH** the footnote to Section 3.1 of the Policy should not be invoked for this issue, and **VG** this issue should be further vetted in the community.

Motion

AF presented a motion to continue the item so the Department could bring more options before the DAC and provide a list of District 8 public properties. Seconded by **TH**.

Approved by of vote 9 to 1 with **KM** opposed.

8. Public Comment

Citizen expressed concerns about using NPC contact lists for outreach
Other public lands area available and the dog groups should work on this
Alamo DPA not acceptable
Commission does not listen to DAC
CEQA is not observed and all stakeholders should be brought together
DAC is maintaining a correct perspective
Can the roof at EV be used
16 tennis courts do not equal the square footage of the DPAs in District 8
Notification should be 30 days

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 11/18/03 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium 6:30 PM (9th and Lincoln Way).

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NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, November 18, 2003
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of October 14, 2003 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [15 minutes]
4. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission for the creation of a DPA at Eureka Valley Playground. (Continued Action Item) [60 minutes]
5. Public comment. [15 minutes]
6. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

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San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

November 18, 2003

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DOG ADVISORY COMMITEE MEETING
Tuesday, November 18, 2003
County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 9th Advisory Meeting

1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:30 PM with roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

PRESENT: Ten members of the Dog Adviasory Committee were present:

Michael Wiseman Co-Chair, SF Veterinarian Medical Association (MW)
Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)
Sgt. William Herdon, SF Police Department (WH)
Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)
Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)
Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)
Vicky Goldbach, Animal Care & Control (VG)
Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW)
Andrea Brooks, PAWS (AB)
Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)

ABSENT: Tamar Hurwitz (TH) Co-chair, SF Department of the Environment (HA)

Representing Recreation & Park:

Dan McKenna, (DM)

2. Approval of October 14, 2003 Minutes (Action Item)

MW made a motion to approve the minutes as prescribed under Roberts Rules with the following amendment as proposed by **DB**, the public notification plan should include notification of all relevant neighborhood organizations when scheduling a community meeting to discuss the creation of a DPA or for DAC meetings that are to discuss the creation of a DPA.

3. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM informed the members that he had a meeting with the Jefferson DPA community group to discuss fencing types and that the group favored a hard barrier for animal safety. He informed the group a survey was developed to solicit community input related to the fencing type. He also told the DAC that he met with Carl Friedman **VG** and **BH** to discuss the development of standards for professional dog walkers. The

DAC officers met with **DM** to develop a 6 month work plan for DAC. Several DAC members including **AF**cautioned the officers that developing such a plan without other DAC members participation was a dangerous precedent. **MW** felt that the plan had to start somewhere and that this was merely a proposal to be discussed at next month's meeting. **DM** went on to inform the group of the meeting schedule for the next 6 months and of the RPD staff work survey signage and amenities at DPAs.

DB requested that the outreach plan be addressed at next month's meeting and **MW** introduced Ari Rosiski, a fellow veterinarian and his proposed successor.

Public Comment

Concerns about Professional Dog Walker guidelines
Some DAC members are opposed to off-leash unlike other RPD advisory group members who support the recreational subject
of the committee.

4. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission for the creation of a DPA at Eureka Valley Playground (Action Item)

Eureka Valley Playground: Acting upon the direction of the DAC, staff prepared a new plan that saved the tennis court, maintained the athletic field, and exceeded the minimum size requirements for a DPA. The proposal was compared with the original DPA in the tennis and four-square court and **DM** answered specific questions related to size, amenities, access and dimensions. **TH** submitted a letter endorsing the plan.

AF felt the proposal seemed to work, while **MBW** inquired about how much of the field was converted to the DPA. **DM** responded that between 3,000 and 3,500 square feet were affected.

Public Comment

What is the surface material and can artificial surfacing be installed
Amenities are needed including lighting and seating
Don't want chips for a surface
Park is not big enough for a DPA
Don't want it to become a Dog toilet and the proposal is a ghetto
More space would be better for DPA
Access to tennis courts need to be maintained
Community needs have changed and a DPA is needed because this has been a traditional area for off-leash activities
Change the location of the tennis court and how many players as compared to dog walkers use the court
DPA will serve more users than a tennis court, there are no kids in the park now
DAC recommendations don't mean a thing because Commission has the final word
Organic fencing would be better than chain link

DAC members discussion:

KM if neighbors are for the plan then he endorses the plan, **VG** seems to provide adequate size which is essential and meets the needs of all park users, **BH** the DPA needs amenities and the proposed DPA could also be used for mixed use, **LK** the DPA will address an essential need within the community, **AB** the proposal is a good way to keep all park uses and meet the needs of the disabled community, **DB** was concerned about reduced area for children, **MBW** the DPA's surfacing and fencing are important but seems to be a reasonable compromise given the number of schools in the area, **MH** proposal is good for the user community, but remains concerned about changing land use in our parks, **AF** proposal is a good demonstration of the art of compromise,

but felt the list of public lands in District 8 as prepared by **DM** was lacking in detail and could use more work, & **MW** addresses all of the issues and serves the greater good for the community.

Motion

AF presented a motion to move the recommendation for the creation of a DPA at Eureka Valley Playground to the RPD Commission and was seconded by **AB.**

Approved by a unanimous vote.

5. Public Comment

Should explore a rooftop playground at EV
Fields are not accessible now at EV
Why explore shared use on fields
Dog owners and parents want one space such as an athletic field
Do not eliminate Sunnyside tennis courts
Should not Balkanize our parks
Kids lost out on this compromise
Demographics change in neighborhoods and parks should be flexible

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 12/9/03 at County Fair Bldg. Gallery 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

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City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, December 9, 2003
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING GALLERY
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of November 18, 2003 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [15 minutes]
4. Discussion of the RPD Public Notification Plan. (Discussion only) [20 minutes]
5. Discussion and possible action to adopt a DAC work Plan for the next six months. (Action Item) [30 minutes]
6. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission guidelines for professional dog walkers who use RPD DPAs. (Action Item) [30 minutes]
7. Public comment. [15 minutes]
8. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

FAX: (415) 221-8034
Phone: (415) 831-2700

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All staff background information for items listed on this agenda are located at McLaren Lodge, 501 Stanyan Street, Office of the Southern Superintendent.

San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

December 09, 2003

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, December 9, 2003
County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 9th Advisory Meeting

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1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:30 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

PRESENT: Ten members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:

Michael Wiseman Co-ChairS. F. Veterinarian Medical Association (MW)

Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)

Tamar Hurwitz (TH) Co-chair, SF Department of the Environment

Sgt. William Herndon), SF Police Department (WH)

Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)

Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)

Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)

Andrea Brooks, PAWS (AB)

Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)

ABSENT: Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW), Vicky Guldbech Animal Care & Control (VG)

Representing Recreation and Park:
Dan McKenna, (DM)

2. Approval of November 18, 2003 Minutes (Action Item)

MW made a motion to approve the minutes with an amendment that **TH** sent a letter endorsing the Eureka Valley proposal even though she did not attend the meeting because she was out of the country.

3. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM read a letter from the General Manager thanking MW for his service to the DAC. DM also informed the members that he has collected surveys from the Jefferson community with preliminary results favoring a post and cable perimeter fence. He also distributed a draft evaluation form to the DAC and asked for comments prior to the next meeting. DM informed the DAC of receiving a petition from community members to change the field at Holly Park into a DPA, DM would conduct a community meeting on the proposal in January and report the results to the DAC in February. He informed the members of the approximate total acreage in DPAs (42 acres) and spoke briefly about an incident in GGP with an off-leash dog injuring a police horse and police officer. He stated that the January meeting should be in the Auditorium if the acoustical work is completed on schedule.

DM introduced Ms. Candie Matson who presented her field work related to the installation of signage and related amenities at Alamo, Pine Lake, Crocker Amazon, and McLaren Park.

Public Comment

Public should have the survey form when available
Inquired why acreage is an important consideration.

4. Discussion of RPD Public Notification Plan. (Discussion Only)

DB requested that RPD notify park user groups when the Department receives a request for the creation of a DPA. AF requested that the RPD place all information related to requests for a DPA be also placed on the Department's WebPage. MW also requested that all city-wide organizations be notified when the Department receives a request for a DPA.

Public Comment

More outreach needed as a whole anytime a proposal is submitted

Creating a DPA is a lengthy process and will there be enough time to address all of the requests

Create for the public a flow chart showing how a DPA is created.

DB requested a document for the public outlining how a DPA is created. DM responded that we will do a flow chart for the web and as a hard copy.

5. Discussion and possible action to adopt a DAC work plan for the next six months. (Action Item)

MW reviewed the draft work plan with the members and received the following comments:

AF timed use issue should be limited as a policy for the Commission to adopt rather than identifying specific sites and that regional trail sites as a whole should be determined via a policy development rather than identifying specific sites. The trail criteria should provide for the richest experience and the have the least conflicts. He also stated the critical need for the development of a written enforcement plan.

MW we should list all parks in excess of 35 acres and develop a trail policy for them. Erosion and the development of a trail experience that minimizes park damage.

DM suggested the creation of a DAC sub-committee to develop a proposal for Enforcement and Outreach.

BH felt that the level of current enforcement is adequate and through the creation of new DPAs enforcement will be more effective.

MW felt we should use the term compliance rather that enforcement. We should create a committee to deal with Compliance, Outreach and informational packet. Timed use should be a separate action item for the Committee to work on.

Public Comment

Like term compliance

Trails for parks is a positive

Work plan should be on the website

Small dogs need a secure place in DPAs and can that be part of the work plan for DAC

Buena Vista has a DPA and should not be changed

Signs don't guarantee compliance, sponsors must manage the DPAs as well

The Committee agreed upon the following work plan for the next six months:

DAC Work Plan 1/1/04 –6/30/04

(not listed chronologically)

1. Proposed New or Amended DPAs:

- Mission Dolores Park
- Holly Park
- Criteria for Trail Experience
- Potrero Hill Recreation Center

2. Develop Compliance & Outreach Policy including informational packet
3. Site Evaluation Form
4. Identify, Develop, and Permit Partners for existing DPAs
5. Develop recommendation for a timed use policy
Members will vote on the item in January for adoption.

6. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission guidelines for professional dog walkers who use RPD DPAs. (Action Item)

DM presented the existing ACC guidelines for professional dog walkers. He excluded

all issues beyond the purview of the Commission.

Professional Dog Walkers Guidelines

(Draft)

Dog Walkers provide a valuable service to the City and County of San Francisco. People rely on dog walkers to provide professional, conscientious dog care while they are at work or away. In order for these services to meet the needs of the public and provide safety and companionship to the dogs, San Francisco Animal Care and Control in Partnership with the Recreation and Park Department has developed a list of guidelines, which we strongly recommend all dog walkers adhere to as well as dog owners who utilize professional services.

In the past the public has complained about specific issues related to professional dog walkers in City Parks:

- Dogs not being under voice control in Dog Play Areas (DPA)
- Too many dogs per professional walker in DPAs
- Dogs being lost by walkers
- Dogs not wearing current license or any identification
- Dogs being verbally and physically abused by walkers
- Dog walkers not carry a leash for each dog
- Dog walkers not removing feces

After reviewing these complaints, we have developed the following guidelines for dog walkers in City Parks and DPA:

1. Each walker may not have more than six dogs in a Park or DPA (requires an amendment to the Dog Policy)
2. Each dog must wear a current San Francisco Dog License
3. Each dog must have verification of current vaccinations
4. Walker must abide by all leash laws and promptly remove feces
5. Walker must have one leash present for each dog under their care
6. Walkers must use methods of handling that are humane and in compliance with state and local laws

The following codes will be utilized to enforce the above guidelines as needed:

Cruelty to Animals

Penal Code Sec. 597(b)

Duties of Owners (Leash Laws)

Health Code Sec. 41.12(a)

Health Code Sec. 41.12.1(a)

Dog License Requirement

Health Code Sec. 41.15(a)

Vaccination Requirements

Health Code Sec. 41.18(a)

Dog to be Controlled as not to Commit Nuisances (Feces Removal)

Health Code Sec. 40(a)

Health Code Sec. 40(b)

Animal Care and Control in Partnership with the Recreation and Park Department will strive to provide a list of registered professional dog walking services to the public in various formats including websites, flyers and other convenient means. Whenever engaging the services of a Professional Dog Walking Service, the Departments encourage the public to evaluate each service based upon available references and past performances.

DB felt that information related to safe animal transportation and disease transmission should be part of the policy and animals should have identification. **AF** all rules as found in the policy should be referenced and they should have insurance.

Public Comment

Public does not have the information before them to make an intelligent and informed comment.

Professional dog walkers should have an identification system and should be insured

They should not park on sidewalks.

Motion by AF

Table the item with staff bringing back information related to the ratio of dogs to walkers and it consistency with the policy and include all relevant items as found in the ACC document.

Seconded by AB

Passed unanimously.

7. Public Comment

Use the DPA meadow adjacent to Wawona at Stern Grove as a small dog DPA

Insurance for Professional Dog Walkers is onerous

3 to 1 ratio should be adopted

How are the DPAs funded

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 1/13/04 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium or **Gallery** 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

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City and County of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

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NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, January 13, 2004
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING GALLERY/AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

12-18-03P01:56 RCVD

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of December 9, 2003 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [15 minutes]
4. Discussion and possible action to elect officers and delegate committee assignments. (Action Item) [15 minutes]
5. Discussion and possible action to adopt a DAC work plan for the next six months. (Action Item) [15 minutes]
6. Discussion to utilize an evaluation form for RPD staff and a separate form for the Public. (Discussion Only) [30 minutes]
7. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission guidelines for professional dog walkers who use RPD DPAs (con't) (Action Item) [30 minutes]
8. Criteria for developing off-leash trails (Discussion Only) [45 minutes]
9. Public comment. [15 minutes]
10. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

FAX: (415) 221-8034
Phone: (415) 831-2700

City and County of San Francisco **Recreation and Park Department**

FAX TRANSMITTAL

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF MEETING

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Date: January 12, 2004

To: Terry Oehler, City Documents Librarian FAX #: 557-4475
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At: SF Main Library – Documents Dept.

From: Dan McKenna, Southern Superintendent of Parks

Via: Christine Manning

Phone: 415-831-2748 or 415-832-2745

MESSAGE:

The Meeting of the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting scheduled on Tuesday, January 13, 2004, at 6:30 p.m., at the County Fair Building, Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way, has been canceled. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 9, 2004, at 6:30 p.m., at the County Fair Building.

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

Phone: (415) 831-2700
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NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, February 10, 2004
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING GALLERY/AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

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AGENDA

1. Roll Call

2. Approval of December 9, 2003 Minutes

3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [15 minutes]

4. Discussion and possible action to elect officers and delegate committee assignments. (Action Item) [15 minutes]

5. Discussion and possible action to adopt a DAC work plan for the next six months. (Action Item) [15 minutes]

6. Discussion to utilize an evaluation form for RPD staff and a separate form for the Public. (Discussion Only) [30 minutes]

7. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission guidelines for professional dog walkers who use RPD DPAs (con't) (Action Item) [30 minutes]

8. Criteria for developing off-leash trails (Discussion Only) [45 minutes]

9. Public comment. [15 minutes]

10. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

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San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

February 10, 2004

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DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, February 10, 2004

County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 10th Advisory Meeting

1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:30 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

PRESENT: Ten members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:

Tamar Hurwitz (TH) Interim-chair, SF Department of the Environment

Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)

Ari Rozycki, San Francisco Veterinary Association

Sgt. William Herndon, SF Police Department (WH)

Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)

Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)

Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)

Andrea Brooks, PAWS (AB)

Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW),

Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)

ABSENT: Vicky Guldbech Animal Care & Control (VG)

Representing Recreation and Park:

Dan McKenna, (DM)

2. Approval of December 9, 2003 Minutes (Action Item)

AF made a motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by KM and unanimously approved by the Committee.

3. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM presented the following information:

FY 04/05 budget for DPAs will be $500,000

Signage pallet, with additional stencil signage to be added

Commission approval of the DPA at Eureka Valley

Flow Chart for DPA process

Upcoming meetings:

Holly Park 2/23 at Bernal Heights Recreation Center

Sunnyside Playground ¾ at St. Finn Bars Community Room

4. Discussion and possible action to elect officer and delegate committee assignments. (Action Item)

Vice Chair:

KH nominated AB with a second by LK and MBW nominated AF with a second by MH. AB received 5 votes to 4 for AF. AB accepted the nomination.

The position of Secretary was held open because the group felt the scope of the minutes could be reduced to motions and the basic resolution of issues.

TH annouced the appointment of two committees.

Trail Criteria with KM, AF, & MH with DM as the Department's liaison

Outreach with LK, VG, BH, & AF with Becky Ballinger as the Department liaison

5. Discussion and possible action to adopt a DAC work plan for the next six months. (Action Item)

Motion by KM to adopt the work plan seconded by AF. Unanimously approved by the Committee.

6. Discussion and possible action to utilize an evaluation from for RPD staff and a separtate form for public input. (Discussion Only)

The committee asked if the form could provide a way to evaluate the DPA's

effectiveness (are park users utilizing the DPA and observing leash laws) and if a form can be created for staff to evaluate a site for a future DPA.

7. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission guidelines for professional dog walkers who use RPD DPAs. (Action Item)

AF made a motion to amend the Department's Dog Policy that all Dog walkers must not exceed the 1 to 6 ratio of walkers to dogs and adopt the guidelines as submitted.

8. Criteria for developing off-leash trails (Discussion Only)

KM suggested the item be tabled and the sub committee meet and use the outline as submitted by staff.

ADJOURNMENT:

AF made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by **MBW**. Unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

NEXT MEETING:

3/9/04 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

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Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

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DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, March 9, 2004
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of February 10, 2004 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [20 minutes]
4. Update on Professional Dog Walkers Guidelines. (Discussion Only) [20 minutes]
5. As outlined in the Policy develop DAC presentation to RPD Commission. (Discussion Only) [15 minutes]
6. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission a DPA for Holly Park. (Action Item) [45 minutes]
7. Committee Business (Discussion Only) [5 minutes]
8. Public comment. [15 minutes]
9. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

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San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

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San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

March 09, 2004

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, March 9, 2004
County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 14th Advisory Meeting

1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:30 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

PRESENT: Ten members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:
Tamar Hurwitz (TH) Interim-chair, SF Department of the Environment
Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)
Vicky Guldbech Animal Care & Control (VG)
Ari Rozycki, San Francisco Veterinary Association
Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)
Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)
Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW)
Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)

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ABSENT: Andrea Brooks, PAWS (AB)
Sgt. William Herndon, SF Police Department (WH)
Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)

Representing Recreation and Park:
Dan McKenna, (DM)
Candie Matson

2. Approval of February 10, 2004 Minutes (Action Item)

KM made a motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by **LK** and unanimously approved by the Committee.

3. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM presented the following information:

- Provided updates on the two community meetings for Holly Park and Sunnyside Park
- Gave the Committee samples of the maps staff is working on delineating DPAs at the new sites with the goal of having maps for all DPAs on the Department's website. At the request of **DB** staff has edited the Flow Chart for DPA process to include language concerning the notification of neighborhood organizations adjacent to the proposed DPA and citywide organizations.
- Candie Matson presented an update on the work she has been conducting related to signage installations at various parks. She will update the Committee on a quarterly basis.

4. Update on Professional Dog Walkers Guidelines. (Discussion Only)

DM informed the Committee that the General Manager requested that a minimal fee

be assessed to professional dog walkers utilizing parklands because of the issue of conducting a private for profit business on public park lands. After consulting with ACC it was determined a $25/year fee be assessed by ACC and forwarded to RPD for processing. The Committee asked for the following edits to the Guidelines:

Delete #3 Each Dog must have verification of current vaccinations

Edit #7 to say To transport dogs with safe and proper restraint if in open vehicles to prevent injury.

DM will present the Guidelines to the RPD Commission at their May 5, 2004 Parks and Planning Committee meeting for possible action.

5. As outlined in the Policy develop DAC presentaiton to RPD Commission. (Discussion Only)

DM presented the attached outline for a presentation by DAC to the Commission as required by the Policy. **TH** and **DB** will work on the presentation that will include those items listed in the outline and the development of two working Committees. The presentation will be scheduled for May 20, 2004.

6. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission a DPA for Holly Park. (Action Item)

DM summarized for the Committee the Holly Park community meeting held on 2/23/04 to discuss the creation of a DPA in the Park's ballfield. Over 250 people attended the meeting and provided the following input:

12 for the ballfield conversion, 77 against the conversion, 35 for the creation of a DPA somewhere else in the Park, and 14 undecided.

Based upon the staff's recommendation against the proposal, input from the community meeting, and input at this DAC meeting the following motion was agreed upon:

MBW to accept the RPD recommendation not to convert the Holly Park ballfield into a DPA, seconded by **DB**, and unanimously approved.

7. Committee Business. (Discussion Only)

TH informed the Committee she will be absent for the 4/13/04 meeting and **AB** will chair the meeting

8.Public Comment (Discussion Only)

Members of the public voiced their concerns and comments related to the purview of the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT: MBW made a motion to adjourn and which was seconded by **DB**. Unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 4/13/04 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, April 13, 2004
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of February 10, 2004 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [20 minutes]
4. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission a DPA for Sunnyside Park. (Action Item) [60 minutes]
5. Committee Business (Discussion Only) [5 minutes]
6. Public comment. [15 minutes]
7. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

FAX: (415) 221-8034
Phone: (415) 831-2700

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San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

April 13, 2004

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, April 13, 2004
County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 15th Advisory Meeting

1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:30 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

PRESENT: Nine members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:
Andrea Brooks, vice chair PAWS (AB)
Sgt. William Herndon, SF Police Department (WH)
Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)
Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)
Vicky Guldbech Animal Care & Control (VG)
Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)
Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)
Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW)
Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)

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ABSENT: Tamar Hurwitz (TH) chair, SF Department of the Environment
Ari Rozycki, San Francisco Veterinary Association (AR)

Representing Recreation and Park
Dan McKenna, (DM)
Dan Mauer, RPD Capital

2. Approval of February 10, 2004 Minutes (Action Item)

The March minutes were not included in the Committee's packet and will be reviewed with the April minutes at the May meeting.

3. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM presented the following information:

- Announced the appointment by the RPD General Manager of Tamar Hurwitz as chair of the Committee.
- Provided an update of a gardener dispute with an off-leash dog and its owner at Glen Park. **BH** stated that a Vicious and Dangerous Report should be filed for each incident with his unit.

4. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission a DPA for Sunnyside Park. (Action Item) [60 minutes]

DM provided a background related to the creation of a DPA at Sunnyside Playground. The site is approximately 2 acres on a steep slope with little flat land. For the past two years a community planning process has been conducted related to overall park improvements. Last December staff received a petition

(196 signatures) to create a DPA in the Park. On March 4, 2004 staff conducted a community meeting that was attended by approximately 200 concerned citizens. Dan Mauer presented four options for the inclusion of a DPA on the site and a 5th option, recommended by the staff, that did not include a DPA. At the community meeting 37 individuals spoke in support of a DPA, 72 spoke against a DPA and 4 voiced no opinion.

Since that meeting the Department has received 4 additional correspondence in support of the DPA and 1,788 signatures and correspondence against a DPA. Dan Mauer presented the options to the Committee and answered specific questions related to those options. The DAC listened to public comments prior to their deliberation with 19 individuals speaking in support, 26 opposed and one person neutral on the issue.

Motion:

> **DB** to approve the staff recommendation to not approve a DPA in Sunnyside Park, seconded by **MBW**.
>
> Vote 7 to 2 (**BH & KM**) against the motion.

5. Committee Business. (Discussion Only)

During the discussion of agenda item #4 **AB** requested that the public refrain from photographing DAC members because of recent DAC members personal information being made public. **TH** will confirm this request at the May meeting.

6.Public Comment (Discussion Only)

Members of the public voiced their concerns and comments related to the purview of the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT:

> MBW made a motion to adjourn and which was seconded by DB. Unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 5/11/04 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

City and County of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, May 11, 2004
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

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1. Roll Call
2. Approval of March 9 and April 13, 2004 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [15 minutes]
4. Discussion and possible action to adopt criteria to be utilized when creating off-leash trails. (Action Item) [45 minutes]
5. Discussion and development of DAC's presentation to RPD Commission. Discussion only) [30 minutes]
6. Committee Business (Discussion Only) [15 minutes]
7. Public comment. [15 minutes]
8. Adjournment

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San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

May 11, 2004

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, May 11, 2004
County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 16th Advisory Meeting

1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:30 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

PRESENT:
Eleven members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:

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Tamar Hurwitz (TH) chair, SF Department of the Environment

Andrea Brooks, vice chair PAWS (AB)

8.25 Sgt. William Herndon, SF Police Department (WH)

2 11/04 Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)

Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)

Vicky Guldbech Animal Care & Control (VG)

Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)

Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)

Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW),

Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)

Ari Rozycki, San Francisco Veterinary Association (AR)

ABSENT: None

Representing Recreation and Park:

Dan McKenna, (DM)

2. Approval of March and April 2004 Minutes (Action Item)

The March minutes were approved with the following change to Agenda item # 5, the presentation date is on May 20th. The April minutes were approved with the following change to Agenda item #4 **WH** and **KM** voted against the motion.

3. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM presented the following information:

- Announced the appointment of Yomi Agunbiade as the new Acting General Manager.
- Provided a copy and reviewed for the DAC the Department's new reorganization.
- Stated he will work with SFPD, ACC and Park Patrol related to off-leash complaints at States Street Park.
- Informed the DAC that after speaking with **WH** and **VG** staff will present the Professional Dog Walkers guidelines with one change from the approved DAC recommendation. Non-professional dog walkers will be limited to 3 dogs in a DPA, which is consistent with existing statues.

4. Discussion and possible action to create criteria to be utilized when creating off-leash trails. (Action Item) [45 minutes]

DM outlined the proposed criteria and the DAC had the following comments prior to voting on two motions:

1. Width of the trail must be delineated when topography is not sufficient
2. Fox tails and other hazards must be controlled on a trail
3. Dog waste monitoring should be part of the monitoring criteria
4. In all sections of the Criteria identify who is responsible for the action
5. Define what is a trail
6. Species surveys need to be validated by all stakeholders
7. Provide the amount of overall park acreage that could exclude park users who choose not to be confronted by an off-leash dog.
8. DAC should identify potential trail locations in a timely manner to provide adequate time for species evaluations. It is recognized that species variations occur based upon seasonal and climatic variations.

Motion:

> **DB** to request that staff incorporate the amendments to the criteria and then present it to DAC in June, seconded by **MH**.
> **Vote:** unanimous in support of the motion.

Motion:

WH to adopt the definition of a trail as presented by **DM:**
A trail is defined as specific park land that provides a user to go from point "A" to point "B" within specific spatial boundaries.
Seconded by **KM**
Vote: (7) For: **WH, VG, AR, KM, AB, TH, LK**
(4) Against: **DB, AF, MH, and MBW**

5. Discussion and development of DAC's presentation to RPD Commission. (Discussion Only) [30 minutes]

The DAC discussed the presentations overall tone, specific content and made several factual edits, which included:

1. DAC has met 16 times
2. Pine Lake Meadow and St Mary's were not approved by DAC, but Brotherhood Way was discussed by DAC.
3. The first chair, Ed Sayers attended only two meetings
4. Should note that the new DPAs are in addition to the existing 17 DPAs.

The group decided to forward their comments to staff by the end of business on May 12, 2004, and **TH** and **DM** will incorporate them into the presentation.

6. Committee Business. (Discussion Only)

Announced the formation of a new working group to develop a proposal for Timed Use. The group consists of **DB, KM, LK, & MBW.**

7. Public Comment (Discussion Only)

Members of the public voiced their concerns and comments related to the purview of the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT:

WH made a motion to adjourn and which was seconded by **VG**. Unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

NEXT MEETING:

6/8/04 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, June 8, 2004
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9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

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AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of May 11, 2004 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [25 minutes]
4. Discussion and possible action to adopt criteria to be utilized when creating off-leash trails. (Action Item) [45 minutes]
5. Discussion of the Department's Dog Policy and the development of any specific amendments to be recommended to the Recreation and Commission for their consideration. (Discussion only) [35 minutes]
6. Committee Business (Discussion Only) [15 minutes]
7. Public comment. [15 minutes]
8. Adjournment

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San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

June 08, 2004

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 17th Advisory Meeting

1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:30 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)** It was announced by the Chair that Item #5 will be removed from the agenda.

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PRESENT: Eleven members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:

Tamar Hurwitz (TH) chair, SF Department of the Environment

Andrea Brooks, vice chair PAWS (AB)

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Sgt. William Herndon, SF Police Department (WH)

8/04

Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)

Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)

Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)

Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW),

Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)

Ari Rozycki, San Francisco Veterinary Association (AR)

ABSENT: Vicky Guldbech Animal Care & Control (VG)

Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)

Representing Recreation and Park:

Dan McKenna, (DM)

Becky Ballinger

2. Approval of May 11, 2004 Minutes (Action Item)

The minutes were approved with the following request that Sgt. Herndon's intials in the minutes consistently be represented as **WH.**

3. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM presented the following information:

- Introduced Becky Ballinger, RPD Director for Public Information, who presented an update from the Outreach and Education Workgroup.
- Informed the DAC that the Professional Dog Walkers Guidelines were not presented to the Commission and will try to get on the July agenda.
- Requested that the group help with establishing a citizen group to discuss options for an amended DPA at Mission Dolores Park.
- Informed the DAC that staff would like to start the community process for a Stern Grove trail DPA, conditional to the approval of guidelines.
- Hoped to get the Timed Use Working group together in early July.

4. Discussion and possible action to create criteria to be utilized when creating off-leash trails. (Action Item) [45 minutes]

DM outlined the edits to the policy. DAC members had the following comments:

1. **AF** wanted the outreach policy attached
2. Species surveys need to be further delineated and refined. Dan McKenna will work with Lisa Wayne to further refine this item especially for monitoring requirements.
3. Under the Section Monitoring Measures, need to define the term degradation.
4. Under the Section Mitigation include the term Erosion Control Techniques
5. Monitoring should be conducted annually rather than quarterly
6. Identify 1 Significant Natural Area Trail and three new sites now so monitoring can be conducted in a comprehensive manner that takes into account seasonal species variations.

Motion: **AB** to request that the policy be returned to staff for further work, seconded by **TH.**

Vote: unanimous in support of the motion.

5. Discussion of the Department's Dog Policy and the development of any specific amendments to be recommended to the RPD Commission. (Discussion Only) [35 minutes] At the request of the Chair removed from the Agenda

6. Committee Business. (Discussion Only)

AF asked how the group might work towards getting new nominations for DPAs from the community.

7. Public Comment (Discussion Only)

Members of the public voiced their concerns and comments related to the purview of the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT: **AB** made a motion to adjourn and which was seconded by **AF.** Unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 8/10/04 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium 6:30 P.M (9th and Lincoln Way).

San Francisco Recreation & Parks

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, 501 Stanyan Street, San Francisco CA 94117
TEL 415.831.2700 FAX 415.668.3330 WEB parks sfgov.org

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2004
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9TH AVENUE & LINCOLN WAY

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THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2004, AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE COUNTY FAIR BUILDING, 9TH AVENUE & LINCOLN WAY.

y and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, August 10, 2004
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

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10/04

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of June 8, 2004 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [15 minutes]
4. Discussion and possible action to adopt criteria to be utilized when creating off-leash trails. (Action Item) [45 minutes]
5. Discussion for the development of DPA support groups. (Discussion Only) [30 minutes]
6. Committee Business (Discussion Only) [15 minutes]
7. Public comment. [15 minutes]
8. Adjournment

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City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, September 14, 2004
6:30 PM
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9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

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AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of June 8, 2004 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [15 minutes]
4. Discussion and possible action to adopt criteria to be utilized when creating off-leash trails. (Action Item) [45 minutes]
5. Discussion for the development of DPA support groups. (Discussion Only) [30 minutes]
6. Committee Business (Discussion Only) [15 minutes]
7. Public comment. [15 minutes]
8. Adjournment

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All staff background information for items listed on this agenda are located at McLaren Lodge, 501 Stanyan Street, Office of the Southern Superintendent.

San Francisco Recreation & Park Department

September 14, 2004

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, September 14, 2004
County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 18th Advisory Meeting

1. **Roll Call** The meeting commenced at 6:30 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

2. **PRESENT:**

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Nine members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:
Tamar Hurwitz (TH) chair, SF Department of the Environment
Sgt. William Herndon, SF Police Department (WH)
Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)
Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)
Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)
Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)
Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW),
Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)
Ari Rozycki, San Francisco Veterinary Association (AR)

ABSENT:

Vicky Guldbech Animal Care & Control (VG)
Andrea Brooks, vice chair PAWS (AB)

Representing Recreation and Park:
Dan McKenna, (DM)

3. **Approval of June 8, 2004 Minutes (Action Item)**

The minutes were approved without comment.

4. **General RPD Update (Discussion Only)**
DM presented the following information:

- Incident at Precita Park with a child being knocked down by an off-leash dog at the playground. All significant dog incidents will be reported to the District SFPD Captain and WH
- Informed the DAC that the Professional Dog Walkers Guidelines have been forwarded to the City Attorney in order to draft legislation for fees and amending the Park Code for enforcement purposes.
- Informed the DAC about the 9/23/04 Mission Dolores Park community meeting to discuss amending the current DPA.
- Informed the DAC that staff will perform further research before convening the Timed Use working group.
- Gave progress report on signage installations
- Met with members of SFDog to discuss issues of mutual concern.

5. Discussion and possible action to create criteria to be utilized when creating off-leash trails. (Action Item) [45 minutes]
DM outlined the edits to the policy. DAC members had the following comments:

1. KM requested that the definition for trail be edited to the following:
A trail is defined as specific park land that provides a way to go from point "A" to point "B" within specific spatial boundaries.
2. WH questioned if the monitoring would be effective in light of global climatic changes that affect specie distribution. DM responded that the monitoring would be conducted over a period of time to minimize fluctuations related to non off-leash activities.

Public Comment: A member of the public submitted a petition to create a DPA adjacent to Big Rec ballfields.

Motion:

AF to approve the policy as amended, seconded by DB.
Vote: unanimous in support of the motion.

6. Discussion for the development of DPA support groups. (Discussion Only) [35 minutes]

DM presented to the DAC a list of known support groups (approx. 33% of existing DPAs). The DAC had the following comments and suggestions:

MBW suggested a variety of postings and informational notices at each DPA. She stressed the need for visual clues.
KM stated that SFDog does not create support groups, but will work with groups and hold community events.
LK felt the SPCA could assist by getting the word out.
DM stated that based upon the input that he would work with on site staff to help identify potential partners and develop outreach materials to aid the development of DPA partners.

7. Committee Business. (Discussion Only)

TH presented the DAC by-laws and briefly noted several sections. She also spoke of moving to a bi-monthly meeting schedule to allow staff time to conduct community meetings between DAC meeting months. TH noted that the election of officers is due in September, but polled the group if waiting for a full year (December,04) of service made more sense. The group agreed to hold the elections at the last DAC meeting of the calendar year. AR asked if the tables could be configured into a horseshoe to facilitate the DACs interactions.

8. Public Comment (Discussion Only)

Members of the public voiced their concerns and comments related to the purview of the Committee, including the use of ACC's dog license data base for outreach.

ADJOURNMENT:

LK made a motion to adjourn and which was seconded by AR.
Unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

NEXT MEETING:

11/9/04 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, November 9, 2004
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of September 14, 2004 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [15 minutes]
4. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission a change to the Mission Dolores Park DPA (Action Item) [45 minutes]
5. Election of DAC Officers. (Action Item) [30 minutes]
6. Committee Business (Discussion Only) [15 minutes]
7. Public comment. [15 minutes]
8. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

FAX: (415) 221-8034
Phone: (415) 831-2700

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November 09, 2004

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, November 9, 2004
County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 19th Advisory Meeting

1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:30 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

2. PRESENT: Nine members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:
Tamar Hurwitz (TH) chair, SF Department of the Environment
Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)
Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)
Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)
Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)
Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW),
Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)
Ari Rozycki, San Francisco Veterinary Association (AR)
Andrea Brooks, vice chair PAWS (AB)

ABSENT:
Vicky Guldbech Animal Care & Control (VG)
Sgt. William Herndon, SF Police Department (WH)
Representing Recreation and Park:
Dan McKenna, (DM)

3. Approval of September 14, 2004 Minutes (Action Item)
The minutes were approved with the following comments, Nine members attended the Sept. meeting and a comma should be inserted in the narrative of Agenda Item #7.

Public Comment: A member of the public submitted a document outlining the need to create DPAs utilizing a comprehensive citywide plan.

4. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM presented the following information:

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- Informed the DAC that staff have received requests for the creation of DPAs at the following parks:
  Big Rec in GGP
  Duboce Park
  Rossi Playground
  Grattan Playground
- Informed the DAC that a community meeting will be held at Stern Grove on the 18th of this month to discuss the creation of an off-leash trail.

4. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission a change to the Mission Dolores Park DPA (Action Item) [45 minutes]

DM reviewed the DAC memorandum concerning the proposal to change the DPA in Mission Dolores Park. He provided DAC with a summary of the community comments from the meeting on October 13th:

For Option "A"	**22**
For Option "B"	**4**
No Preference	**21**
Against Both	**9**

He went on to recommend to the DAC that Option "A" was the preferred modification to the existing DPA.

DAC members has the following comments:

1. **AB** felt the Children's Play Area (CPA) fence be removed from the proposal and liked the flexibility of the plan in the event future changes to the park were implemented. She also felt enforcement and education was needed to make the proposal a success and supported Option A.
2. **AF** agreed with the deletion of the CPA fence and felt a structural element be used to delineate the southern portion of the DPA from the service road and supported Option A. He disputed the notion that the Park is only used by dog owners in the early AM.
3. **AR** agreed with the deletion of the CPA fence and felt the two distinct areas in the DPA plan allowed for small dogs to have a separate area when needed and therefore supported Option A.
4. **DB** stated that the fence needed to be located adjacent to the streetcar tracks and not the pathway and agreed with the Deletion of the CPA fence. He also felt the plan afforded the needed flexibility to accommodate future park projects and therefore supported Option A.
5. **KM** stated he wanted to honor the community and stakeholder process and supported Option A.
6. **LK** felt that Option A was a good compromise and supported the process, but that enforcement and education was needed to make the proposal a success.
7. **MBW** felt that kids need access to grass and if a CPA fence is installed it should provide for that. She stated her support for Option A.
8. **MH** stated his support for the community/stakeholder process, but hoped future proposals did not included divided DPAs because of potential user confusion.

9. **TH** felt that Option A represented a good community discussion and settlement of a long-standing dispute.
   Public Comment: Members of the public expressed both support and concerns. The comments included the need for more public process, more options, need for timed use, DPA is too large as well as other comments.
   Motion:
   AF to approve the staff recommendation omitting the fence for the CPA, seconded by **AR**.
   Vote: unanimous in support of the motion.

5. Election of DAC Officers. (Action Item) [30 minutes]

TH noted that the DAC by-laws needed to be amended to allow the election of officers later in the calendar year.

AF nominated **AB** for vice chair and the nomination was seconded by **KM. AB** nomination was unanimously approved by the DAC members.

Public Comment: Public statements included the need for a broader community representation on the DAC as well as more pro dog members.

6. Committee Business (Discussion Only) [15 minutes]

TH requested that an amendment to the by-laws be placed on the January agenda that would allow for the election of officers at the last calendar meeting rather than in Sept. **AR** asked that timed use and enforcement and compliance be placed on the agenda and **TH** stated she would work with **DM.**

Public Comment: Public statements included the inefficiencies of DAC, the Policy as a whole and overall Department policies related to off-leash issues.

7. Public comment. [15 minutes]

Members of the public voiced their concerns and comments related to the focus of the DAC, their past work and the Department's lack of coordinated focus on off-leash issues.

ADJOURNMENT:
MBW made a motion to adjourn and which was seconded by **AB**.
Unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.
NEXT MEETING:
1/11/05 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

City and County of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, January 11, 2005
6:30 PM
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9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

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1/11/05

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of November 9, 2004 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [25 minutes]
4. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission the creation of a trail DPA at Stern Grove/Pine Lake parks (Action Item) [50 minutes]
5. Committee Business (Discussion Only) [15 minutes]
6. Public comment. [15 minutes]
7. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

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501 Stanyan Street
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January 11, 2005

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, January 11, 2005
County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of 20thth Advisory Meeting

1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:30 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

2. PRESENT:
Nine members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:
Tamar Hurwitz (TH) chair, SF Department of the Environment
Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)
Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)
Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)
Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)
Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW),
Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)
Ari Rozycki, San Francisco Veterinary Association (AR)
Sgt. William Herndon, SF Police Department (WH)

ABSENT:
Vicky Guldbech Animal Care & Control (VG)
Andrea Brooks, vice chair PAWS (AB)
Representing Recreation and Park:
Dan McKenna, (DM)

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3. Approval of November 9, 2004 Minutes (Action Item)

The minutes were approved with the following comment, the motion for Dolores Park should have stated:

AF to approve the staff recommendation omitting the fence for the CPA, seconded by **AR**.

4. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM presented the following information:

- New RPD planners have begun utilizing the ACC dog license database to determine DPA needs throughout the city. The Department will utilize the database for outreach purposes as well.
- Informed the DAC that the RPD Commission Operation's Committee approved the Mission Dolores DPA modification and placed the item on the Full Commission's consent calendar.
- Candie Matson provided the DAC with an update on the Department's efforts related to signs, amenities and stencils. **DB** asked for copies of her Powerpoint presentation.
- Next four community meetings:
  Big Rec. in January
  Rossi in early Feb.
  Duboce in Feb.
  Grattan in March
  DM informed the DAC that he and Lemar Morrison will participate in the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking on Dog Management process.

Public Comments included the need to utilize signage judiciously so as not to create a blight in the parks.

5. <u>Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission the creation of a trail DPA in Stern Grove/Pine Lake parks (Action Item) [45 minutes]</u>

DM reviewed the DAC memorandum concerning the proposal to create a trail DPA in Stern Grove/Pine Lake parks. He reviewed the site characteristics, monitoring points, signage, maintenance plan, and preparation efforts. He informed the DAC that the 11/18/04 meeting was attended by approximately 50 community members and they unanimously supported the proposal.

He went on to recommend to the DAC that the Trail DPA be sent to the Commission for approval.

DAC members had the following comments:
1. **AF** requested that staff provide the DAC with a summary of weekly inspections related to use and misuse every six months.

Public Comment: With the exception of one individual members of the public expressed support for the proposal. The comments included the need to complete erosion work first, minimize conflicts with other recreational users and not to damage or destroy historical landmarks.
Motion: KM move to accept staff recommendation, seconded by **AR**.
Vote: unanimous in support of the motion.

6. <u>Committee Business (Discussion Only) [15 minutes]</u>

TH informed the DAC that the by-laws will be placed on the March agenda that would allow for the election of officers at the last calendar meeting rather than in Sept. She indicated that a working group would be formed (**TH, VG, GH, and DM**) to develop an enforcement proposal for the DAC to discuss and that two DPA proposals would be on the March calendar.

7. Public comment. [15 minutes]

Members of the public voiced their concerns and comments related to the need for more trail DPAs and the need for a Timed Use Policy.

ADJOURNMENT:
MBW made a motion to adjourn and which was seconded by **AF**. Unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 3/8/05 at County Fair Bldg. Auditorium 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

City and County of San Francisco
Recreation and Park Department

McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street, San Francisco, CA 94117
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NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, March 8, 2005
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

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AGENDA

03-01-05A11:00 RCVD

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Approval of January 11, 2005 Minutes**
3. **General RPD update. (Discussion only) [10 minutes]**
4. **Discussion related to the development of an implementation program for enforcing the Dog Policy (Discussion only) [60 minutes]**
5. **Committee Business (Discussion and possible action to amend the DAC by-laws to reflect that the election of officers shall be for the calendar year rather than September to September as currently prescribed. (Action Item) [10 minutes]**
6. **Public comment. [10 minutes]**
7. **Adjournment**

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

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March 08, 2005

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DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, March 8, 2005
County Fair Bldg.

Minutes of the 21st Meeting

1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:30 P.M. with a roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee members. **(Action Item)**

PRESENT: Nine members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:
Tamar Hurwitz (TH) chair, SF Department of the Environment
Andrea Brooks, vice chair PAWS (AB)
Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)
Arthur Feinstein, Golden Gate Audubon Society (AF)
Donald Bird, EQUP (DB)
Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)
Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW),
Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)
Ari Rozycki, San Francisco Veterinary Association (AR)
Vicky Guldbech Animal Care & Control (VG)

Guests: Commander Shinn & Capt. Ehrlich

ABSENT: Sgt. William Herndon, SF Police Department (WH)

Representing Recreation and Park:
Dan McKenna, (DM)
Candie Matson

2. Approval of January 11, 2005 Minutes (Action Item)

The minutes were approved with the following comment, Agenda item five should have TH as the Committee member working on the enforcement subcommittee.

3. General RPD Update (Discussion Only)

DM presented the following information:

- This will be his last meeting since he is leaving the Department to explore other opportunities.
- Informed the DAC that community meetings were held for Duboce Park and Big Rec. Both items will be brought to DAC at the May meeting. DM further stated that Duboce Park community members will be deliberating on this issue and may present a third option for DAC consideration.

Motion: **AF** proposed a resolution recognizing the fine work of DM on issues related to the work of DAC, seconded by **KM**.

Vote: unanimous in support of the motion.

Public Comments included the need to utilize signage judiciously so as not to create a blight in the parks.

4. **Discussion related to the development of an implementation program for enforcing the Dog Policy (Discussion Only) [60 minutes]**

DM presented an overview of the proposed enforcement program.

Dog Policy Enforcement Program

A. Existing Conditions

- Many parks with or without DPAs are experiencing a lack of compliance with the existing leash laws.
- The response to the issue of leash laws within park facilities has evoked charged responses from both sides of this issue and many park users become quite agitated when confronted with requests for compliance or a lack of enforcement by relevant agencies.
- A partial list of parks known to have off-leash controversies:

  Alamo Square
  Alta Plaza
  Duboce Park
  Eureka Valley

Glenn Park
Holly Park
Lafayette Park
Mission Dolores Park
Moscone Playground
Precita Park
Potrero Hill
States Street Playground
Sunnyside Playground

- During Monday through Friday most complaints are found to occur between the hours of 6 to 8 AM and 5 to 7 PM. Weekends also have similar patterns, but the hours are extended.

B. Policy Guidelines

- Section 5.3 of the Policy states *"Although previous enforcement has been inconsistent, RPD intends to pursue enforcement of all related state and municipal laws. Enforcement will necessitate a multi-agency effort to include SFPD, ACC, and RPD. RPD strongly believes the greatest voice for following established rules and policies will be from DPA partners and users".*
- *"RPD to recommend a joint enforcement policy to the Commission within 90 days of the adoption of this Policy".*

C. Current Available Resources

- RPD Park Patrol (Currently 4 part time staff) *Dan McKenna to elaborate*
- ACC limited staff, Department Mission is diversified *Staff to elaborate*
- SFPD enforcement of the leash law not the highest priority *Staff to elaborate*

D. Compliance Strategies

- Education

  The Department works regularly with Friends Groups and Advisory Boards related to recreational programs uses, the Enforcement Program for the Dog Policy will duplicate those interactions with DPA sponsor groups to develop regular dialogues that address areas of mutual concern.Continue signage program and improve quality of signage, Lemar Morrison will provide examples of new signs.
- Improving Partnerships

  As stated in Sec. 5.3 of the Policy DAC members need to develop a partnership strategy for their group related to outreach and compliance. Each group represented on the DAC should ask the question how can my group help implement the policy as a whole. Not until this issue is addressed wholeheartedly by the community can compliance be truly successful.

  Park stakeholders likewise have a responsibility to create a culture of commitment to existing leash laws. Examples of partnerships would include

children's signage programs identifying sensitive areas sponsored by environmental groups, educational materials made available to pet guardians at the time of adoption, existing guardians made aware of leash laws throughout the city.

- Enforcement
  Train RPD Department staff to enforce the Park Code through successful interactions with Park Users. Much like to the new litter campaign the goal will be to achieve compliance through the issuance of citations as a last resort.Through Operation Park meetings develop SFPD assistance program that is modeled after the Mayor's new anti-litter campaign
  Public lobbying for enforcement of the Public Health Code through citywide policy makers
- Monitoring
  Develop a 24/7 Hot Line with our Park Patrol Office to report problem sites with a response within three business days.
  Encourage staff to report problem facilities.
  Strategically deploy limited RPD resources to hot spots as determined by Operation Park meetings, public input and staff observations.Report to DAC semiannually and in turn the Commission on an annual basis the number of complaints received and citations issued

The DAC had the following comments:

AF: What can DAC groups do and we need both education and signage along with enforcement. **DM** responded that DAC members could galvanize their representative groups' membership to bring the issue to the forefront of the public's attention. He felt that the DAC should establish a working group to further distill the draft implementation program and present that document to the Commission for adoption.
AB: PAWS can do mailings to their membership
MH: What does Park Patrol do? **DM** detailed the duties of the Park Patrol staff that included opening and closing facilities, responding to alarms etc.
DB: Felt the draft program was a good starting point, but that enforcement was the key element to gain compliance. RPD also had to conduct research into timed use prior to the DAC discussing the issue.
LK: SPCA will do a presentation this coming May that will include information related to leash laws and where individuals can take their dog off leash. Agreed that the recommendations could be distilled from the draft document.
TH: Suggested that an art campaign designed by youth would prove effective if RPD would accept informational signage created by youth generally appealing to the public about rules for having your dog in public places.
MBW: Are citations being issued and do playgrounds have a higher priority than other park spaces? **DM, VG** responded that citations have been issued and the public has complained that individuals have received tickets. Specific park spaces are not identified as a priority.

VG: Education is ACC's first priority and citations are issued as a last resort, but reiterated that resources are prioritized based upon workloads and need.
AR: Stated that park users need to be educated about park rules and regulations. Signage must be improved and other means such as community park bulletin boards be utilized to improve the public's understanding of where and how they may have their dog off leash. He also suggested that DPA sponsors be required to attend the DAC meeting to facilitate the discussion of their responsibilities. He felt the working group should focus on policies by park facilities and that one document could not apply to all sites.
KM: Stated that the DAC should note the difference between egregious behavior and status crimes. Stated that Timed Use as well as an enforcement policy was mandated by the Commission for DAC to work on.

Public comments received varied from universal implementation of the leash laws in our park facilities to not wasting valuable resources on a petty issue. Most attendees (approximately 100) felt some level of enforcement was needed but disagreed on whether enforcement was needed for minor infractions or for only egregious infractions.

TH proposed a working group be established to refine the draft program.

5. Committee Business Discussion and possible action to amend the DAC by-laws to reflect that the election of officers shall be for the calendar year rather than September to September as currently prescribed. (Action Item) [10 minutes]

Motion: **AF** proposed a motion to amend the by-laws so the election of officers is conducted on the calendar year, seconded by **DB.**

Vote: unanimous in support of the motion.

6. Public comment. [15 minutes]

Members of the public voiced their concerns and comments related to the need for a timed use policy, the creation of DPA's utilize traditional planning information, all areas should be shared use and don't use the term off-leash rather than DPA.

ADJOURNMENT: **AB** made a motion to adjourn and which was seconded by **AF**. Unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING: 5/10/05 at County Fair Bldg. Gallery 6:30 P. M (9th and Lincoln Way).

City and County of San Francisco
Recreation and Park Department

McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street, San Francisco, CA 94117
TEL: 415.831.2700 FAX: 415.831.2096 WEB: http://parks.sfgov.org

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NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

28.25
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/10/05
ancelled

TUESDAY, May 10, 2005
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

The County Fair Building is wheelchair accessible. Accessible MUNI lines serving this location are the #71 Haight/Noriega, #44 O'Shaughnessey, and the N-Judah Streetcar. For more information about MUNI services, call 923-6142, or 673-6864 for wheelchair accessibility stops. Large print agendas are available by calling the Recreation and Park Department Office at 415-831-2084. Sign language interpreters are available upon request by contacting at 415-831-2774 at least two working days prior to a meeting. Individuals with severe allergies, environmental illnesses, multiple chemical sensitivity or related disabilities should also call 415-831-2774. In order to assist the City's efforts to accommodate persons with severe allergies, environmental illnesses, multiple chemical sensitivity or related disabilities, attendees at public meetings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various chemical based products. Please help the City accommodate these individuals. The TDD phone number for the Recreation and Park Department is 415-554-8922.

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All staff background information for items listed on this agenda are located at McLaren Lodge, 501 Stanyan Street, Office of the Southern Superintendent.

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Recreation and Park

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2005
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

07-01-05P01 39 RCVD

AGENDA

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1. Roll Call
2. Approval of March 8, 2005 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [30 minutes]
4. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission the creation of enforcement policy and pilot timed use (Action Item) [45 minutes]
5. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission the creation of timed use policy (Action Item) [45 minutes]
6. Committee Business (Discussion Only) [15 minutes]
7. Public comment. [15 minutes]
8. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

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501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898
FAX: (415) 221-8034
Phone: (415) 831-2700

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July 12, 2005

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DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, July 12, 2005
County Fair Building

Minutes of the 22nd Meeting

1. Roll Call The meeting commenced at 6:38 p.m. with roll call of the Dog Advisory Committee **(Action Item)**

Tamar Hurwitz, Chair, introduced new members: Elizabeth Murdock, replacing Arthur Feinstein, of the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Arnold Levine, replacing Donald Bird, of EQUP, Jill Chase, replacing Ari Rozycki, San Francisco Veterinary Association, Carl Friedman, replacing Vicky Guldbeck, Animal Care & Control Department. Outgoing members were thanked for their service on the Dog Advisory Committee Board.

PRESENT: 10 members of the Dog Advisory Committee were present:
Tamar Hurwitz (TH) chair, SF Department of the Environment
Andrea Brooks, vice chair PAWS (AB)
Elizabeth Murdock, Golden Gate Audubon Society (EM)
Arnold Levine, EQUP (AL)
Laurie Kennedy, SF SPCA (LK)
Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates (MBW)
Mark Heath, CA Native Plant Society (MH)
Jill Chase, San Francisco Veterinary Association (JC)
Carl Friedman, Director, Animal Care & Control (CF)
Sgt. William Herndon, SF Police Department (WH)

ABSENT: Keith McAllister, SF DOG (KM)

Representing Recreation and Park:
Yomi Agunbiade, (YA), Acting General Manager
Amber Evans, (AE), RPD DAC Liaison
Marcus Santiago, (MS) Park Patrol

Yomi Agunbiade, Acting General Manager introduced himself and Amber Evans, RPD-DAC Liaison, and new DAC Committee members. Discussed the process of how he made the new DAC appointments to fill in for the remainder of this calendar year. The last DAC Meeting of the year will be in November, there being no DAC Meeting in December, 2005. DAC Meetings will be held August 9, September 13, and November 8, 2005.

Chairman Tamar Hurwitz, stated it was her understanding that DAC Bylaws state that appointments are made at the end of the Calendar Year, since our last DAC meeting falls in November of each year, that is when elections and appointments happen and the commitment for being a DAC member is for a one year term.

2. Approval of March 8, 2005 Minutes: (Action Item)

The minutes were amended by TH as follows:

TH: Suggested that an art campaign designed by youth would prove effective if RPD would accept informational signage created by youth generally appealing to the public about rules for having your dog in public spaces.

AR: Stated that park users need to be better educated about park rules and regulations. Signage must be improved and other means such as community bulletin boards be utilized to improve the public's understanding of where and how they may have their dog off leash. He also suggested that DPA sponsors be required to attend the DAC meeting to facilitate the discussion of their responsibilities. He asked a question if voice control is a misnomer. He felt the working group should focus on policies by park facilities and that one document could not apply to all sites.

3. General RPD Update. Discussion related to implementation of system wide approach to planning future dog play areas.

AE: Introduced herself and her position with the Planning Division of RPD. She would give an overview on current park use in relation to off leash dog play areas and would be presenting a system wide approach to planning future dog play areas. There are 26 DPAs, in 22 parks in an estimated 124 acres. There are three currently under construction; one of them is new; one approved for construction, a trail was recommended and will be going to the Commission for approval, and two currently under review by DAC.

AE: Needs more time to research Timed Use issues in other areas such as Santa Cruz prior to bringing it back to DAC.

Dog Advisory Committee – Status Update & New Directions, July 12, 2005
Posted at: http://www.park.sfgov.org/scm_recpark/DAC/DACUpdateNew.pdf

Presentation Overview
Existing Parks
Existing Issues
Enforcement
Timed Use
Professional Dog Walkers
Lack of Funding
Evaluation
Partnerships
Impact on Native Species
Low Level of Licensing
System Wide Planning
Identify Supply & Demand
Licensed Dogs in SF
Universal Access
Additional Opportunities for DPAs

AE stated that the entire power point presentation will be posted on RPD's website.

AE stated RPD needs to be explicit as we move forward to a city system wide planning approach that we need licensing data to support that, only approximately 11% of dogs have been licensed in the city. RPD does not have good information about the actual numbers of dogs. RPD does not receive funds from licensing for maintenance, development or enforcement. Need to engage in a dialogue with ACC to increase licensing so they have sufficient revenues to possibly share revenues with RPD, so that improvements can occur and create an incentive for increasing licensing of dogs.

AL: AL asked if others beside dog walkers would be surveyed about appropriate uses in Mt lake park. AE responded that the Mt. Lake Survey it was intended solely a user survey of the DPA, not to evaluate for alternate uses but to look at maintenance choices within the DPA. Only intended to be distributed to off leash dog walkers, as only talking about turf material and other physical amenities within the DPA.

EM: Commended forward thinking approach, good ideas and general commitment to different areas of the program are doing that as well, very important.

4. Discussion of the creation of an enforcement policy

TH: We were supposed to have a report from the Working Group. When the working group on enforcement was originally put together, she wanted to include as many stakeholders without having a quorum so had five people. It was too difficult to

coordinate schedules for five busy people on a voluntary basis, what with summer, vacation plans, etc., but will meet prior to next August's DAC Meeting.

AE: Has copies of the Enforcement Program that was introduced in March for discussion. List we will look at while evaluating is a combination of both approved DPAs (where we have non-compliance outside the boundaries of the DPA) and parks that don't have an approved DPA yet rampant of leash activity. Before we go forward we must be clear on the differences and the problems to be faced with enforcement and facility improvements. Want working groups focus on compliant strategies. Limited by our resources.

MS: Head Park Ranger for RPD's, stated resources limited, reduced to small force of 4 rangers. Will respond to any need in any park area and will address what we can. Working with YA to increase revenue sources to get more park rangers. Education for dog owners is main tool to let people know leash laws. 95% are compliant when asked to put their dogs on leash.

AL: Has there been any movement such as deputizing to give out more tickets despite understaffing.

MS: Gardeners and Recreation Supervisors believe it to be out of their realm and don't wish to engage where they would become argumentative or put themselves at risk. When a dog is off leash it can be hard to judge. The average citizen, child, would not know if a dog is friendly or not. Gardeners will remind public about keeping dogs on leash, but will not issue tickets.

MS: In response to query, Park Patrol number is posted in almost every park under rules and regulations whether the park is off leash or not. When they call the dispatch number if no one answers a cell phone number is usually left that they can call the officer in the field and call them directly. Because Park Ranger Headquarters is in GG Park response farther out would take longer, but they would respond.

CF: ACC resources are even bleaker than RPD. Have 9 deputy animal control officers citywide. Need to pick up dead animals, investigate animal cruelty and abuse cases, dog bites and aggressive animal issues, deal with wildlife, rescue animals that are distressed. Given limited resources, aggressive animal calls are the most important service. Have 13,000 licensed dogs at $15 per license or $200,000 in revenue of $3M budget. Work with AVA, SFSPCA, Pet Clinics, to derive estimate of total number of dogs so we are confident in estimate of 120,000 dogs in San Francisco. Other agencies able to issue dog licenses and we should strengthen this partnership.

CF: Overpopulation of pit bulls main problem. Don't have many dog bites in parks. Most occur in people's homes or on the streets. DAC is all about getting as many DPAs as we can, that are approved by the Recreation and Park Commission, neighborhoods and interested parties, and then get best effective enforcement.

AL: Had questions about reporting of dog bites by emergency rooms, clinics, that minor dog bites may not be counted. That there is an actual undercounting of dog bites. CF replied that they are in violation of State Law, that every dog bite must be reported to Dog Bite Investigations Unit.

LK: It sounds like everyone on the committee as well as the public agrees that dog enforcement should happen, but it is clear that there are no resources to make that happen. DPAs established first. Put the cart before the horse. The complaint there is that most dog owners gravitate to others with dogs in a DPA. If more DPAs established there will be less need for enforcement. Part of being a responsible pet owner is socializing and exercising your dog.

MBW: It's not all about resources, it's a lot about political will, and there isn't political will for where the resources come from, that is what enforcement is all about.

CF: I can agree that the penalties are not stiff enough for a lot of the code enforcements, and they need to be increased. But if you are in violation of the pooper-scooper law it is a $319 ticket, which is pretty stiff.

MH: If licensure would cover almost all of dog enforcement issues, would writing 10,000 citations have an effect on revenue.

CF: ACC does not get the revenue from citations, that money goes to the Courts. License revenue according to Administrative Code comes directly to ACC.

AL: For participants on the Enforcement Committee, have you sat down and spoken with SFDOG and SFSPCA about their policies such as voice control, and if SPCA still has a policy on their website that is against dog licensing.

CF: I meet with the President of SSPCA often, it is not true. Basically, they sell dog licenses. They are one of the few outlets like ACC that sells dog licences. Will look into discussing with President of SFSPCA, or ask LK to take out wording on their website that may be incorrect.

5.Committee Business

TH: Will be talking again about enforcement next month and hopefully have something from the Working Group to consider, discuss and possibly even to vote on and recommend to the Commission. DAC will be having meetings August 9, September 13, and November 8, 2005.

6.Public Comment

Many comments were made by audience members regarding need for greater enforcement and the need for timed use.

7. Adjournment: The Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Below is the information to log onto the website to see the entire presentation by Amber Evans, RPD-DAC Liaison:

For the power point presentation itself:
http://www.park.sfgov.org/scm_recpark/DAC/DACUpdateNew.pdf
The Site on which DAC postings will be placed: http://www.park.sfgov.org/site/recpark_index.asp?id=2180 . If at the home page please see "Department's Dog Policy"

City and County of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9th, 2005
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

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AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of July 12, 2005 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [20 minutes]
4. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission an implementation program for enforcing the Dog Policy (Action Item) [40 minutes]
5. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission action on a proposed DPA adjacent to Big Rec. athletic fields in Golden Gate Park (Action Item) [40 minutes]
6. Committee Business (Discussion Only) [10 minutes]
7. Public comment. [10 minutes]
8. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

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San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

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August 09, 2005

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING, 9TH AVENUE & LINCOLN WAY
AUGUST 9, 2005, 6:30 P.M.

Minutes

1. Roll Call:

PRESENT:

Tamar Hurwitz, (TH) President, Department of Environment
Andrea, Brooks, (AB) Vice President, P.A.W.S.
Arnold Levine, (AL) EQUP
Keith McAllister,(KM) SFDOG
Laurie Kennedy, (LK) SF-SPCA
Jill Chase, (JC) San Francisco Veterinary Association
Carl Friedman, (CF) Animal Care & Control Department
Elizabeth Murdock, (EM) Golden Gate Audubon Society
Mark Heath, (MH) California Native Plant Society

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ABSENT:

Sgt. William Herndon, SFPD, Dog Investigations Unit
Marybeth Wallace, (MBW) Coleman Advocates

Guest
Captain John Ehrlich, SFPD, Park Station was asked by RPD to attend meeting to answer any questions regarding enforcement issues.

Recreation and Park Department Staff:
Amber Evans, (AE) RPD Liaison to DAC
Steve Cismoski, Golden Gate Park Area Supervisor

Discussion of Rules of Order:

TH: Discussed the process for Public Comment at DAC Meetings, which shall adhere to all City and State Public Meeting Laws. Everyone who wished to speak must submit a speaker's card for public record. A card must be submitted for each agenda item intended for comment. Each person can speak once per agenda item. The public may speak after the specified agenda item has been presented. Public comment on any other DAC topic is permitted at the end of the meeting, during the final public comment period. All public comment must be addressed to the Chairperson. For DAC, one minute for each agenda item is the usual time limit to accommodate all speakers. Personal attacks directed to any DAC member, other members of the public, or RPD staff is not permitted and will not be heard.

2. Approval of Minutes:

EM requested: Correction to Minutes third page under Discussion RPD Update: EM commented that in particular she was very pleased that the plan put forward by Amber Evans had actually looked at integrating with other Department efforts such as the Natural Areas Program.

Minutes were approved and seconded with changes.

3. General RPD Update

Amber Evans, introduced herself as a Planner with RPD and is RPD Liaison to DAC. She announced the Permanent Appointments of Yomi Agunbiade as General Manager of RPD, Rhoda Parsham, Capital Manager for RPD, Katie Petrucione, Chief Financial Officer, and Dennis Kern, Chief Operating Officer. Two as yet unnamed Superintendents will report to Mr Kern.

Two DPA sites are planned for Mission Bay under the Redevelopment Agency of the City. RPD will open a new DPA in Diamond Heights at Walter Haas Playground. The Capital project is expected to be completed in about two months.

AE has received comments from SF DOG about system-wide planning process for DPAs introduced at the last meeting. The presentation can be found on-line, and she will be clarifying a number of questions arising from that presentation at the next DAC Meeting in September, to really talk about better implementing strategy for existing Dog Policy. The Department brochure that directs people to our existing DPAs, will be coming out in the next few months from our Public Relations Office. This new fiscal year we have been allocated $14,000 to specifically improve signage with two parks anticipated to have completed signage per month for a total of 24 parks over the next year.

Working on implementing the dog policy in the area of partnerships. Needs to begin a dialogue about how to have better partnerships. In response to questions

from the audience, AE stated that the situation is that RPD has not signed an agreement with any dog support group. Aware of a few organizations which serve as "Friends of Dog Play Areas" that have not pursued signed agreements and we have a number of DPAs in which there isn't a designated DPA Friends group and a broader Friend Group may or may not be in effect. There are three different situations: 1) DPAs that were in existence prior to the Dog Policy, 2.) DPAs approved after the dog policy and 3. DPAs seeking approval now. Responding to question, AE noted intent is to seek partnerships with both existing DPAs and newly approved DPAs.

The Capital Funding Budget for DPAs is between $100,000-$200,000 this fiscal year, much of which is targeted for improvements to the DPA at Mission Dolores Park.

AE: Received AL request to identify more information regarding sanctioned timed use. Discussed with General Manager and has requested more information about site so it can be brought back to DAC for discussion.

TH: Reminded audience that AE will be addressing comments brought up tonight about the system-wide plan at next month's meeting.

EM: Would like to have you address it at the appropriate time whether or not the proposal is in keeping with the Dog Policy, since RPD is looking at several factors including available parkland, dog population, proximity to other DPAs, and other park uses as identified in Section 3.1. Requested AE please explain whether we are within those guidelines. AE indicated would go into detail at September meeting.

Discussion and possible action to recommend to the RPD Commission an implementation program for enforcing the Dog Policy.

TH: Wanted to thank the Working Group on Enforcement that met, discussed, and submitted to AE.

AE: Stated that when the Working Group met last week, they directed her to revise the Draft Report that had come before the DAC Meeting in March, and she was not able to get the draft back to them until tonight, so this will be a chance for them to give comment and start to engage draft into a working format. Apologized that overhead projector not available tonight. Provided some extra copies of draft policy and read verbatim.

The background previously included in the document was shortened to reflect DAC's concerns that the list of DPAs where we have lack of conformance with the Dog Policy and leash laws could constantly change. One discussion point that came

up regarding timing of enforcement, was that if we have concerns 6-8 a.m. and 5-7 p.m., there is probably a greater need to look at a conflict that exists between 5-7 p.m., and think about strategies that involve spot enforcement or prioritizing enforcement at that time.

The policy guidance for looking at enforcement is stated in Section 5.3. There have been some questions about whether it is appropriate for DAC to address enforcement. Dog Policy calls for RPD to work with SFPD, ACC, for a joint policy. One of the questions will be if there is consensus about removal, expansion or rewording of items – if so we will put it forward to a vote.

Added to the Draft existing laws. The First Draft focused solely on the leash law, this draft also includes pooper-scooper laws and license laws. There was a request that we more clearly define what RPD resources were. One item that has been put in here has been located elsewhere in the original document about spot enforcement, only option with existing staff levels. This is part of a discussion elsewhere in the Draft, and has been moved up to talk about what existing resources are. The targeting of enforcement to address malicious dogs is a statement that had been initiated by our Head Ranger specifically to this group. The description of their duties is from our website in terms of what a Park Patrol Officer's duties are. A question that came up from the Working Group was a question of how can we better work with Animal Care & Control and how ACC and RPD missions overlap with how to enforce leash laws within parks.

DRAFT Enforcement Policy Recommendations Supporting the Dog Policy

Background

Many parks with or without DPAs are experiencing a lack of compliance with the existing leash and pooper scooper laws. The response to the issue of leash laws within park facilities has evoked charged responses from both sides of this issue and many park users become quite agitated when confronted with requests for compliance or a lack of enforcement by relevant agencies. The list of parks known to have off-leash controversies, including those with approved DPAs and those without, is quite long.

During Monday through Friday most complaints occur between 6 and 8 AM and 5 and 7 PM. Weekends have similar patterns, but the hours are extended.

Policy Guidelines

SFRPD Dog Policy - Section 5.3:
"Although previous enforcement has been inconsistent, RPD intends to pursue enforcement of all related state and municipal laws. Enforcement will necessitate a multi-agency effort to include SFPD, ACC, and RPD. RPD strongly believes the greatest voice for following established rules and policies will be from DPA partners and users."

"RPD to recommend a joint enforcement policy to the Commission within 90 days of the adoption of this Policy"

Existing Laws

Leash Law - It shall be unlawful for the owner of any animal, other than a domestic cat, to permit said animal to run at large within the City and County. (Not applicable to areas designated as an animal exercise area under the jurisdiction of the Recreation and Park Commission) *(Health Code Sec. 41.12 (a))*

Owner Presence - It shall be unlawful for the owner of any animal to permit said animal to be within an area designated as an animal exercise area unless said owner is physically present at all times during which the animal is in said area. *(Health Code Sec. 41.12 1)*

Pooper Scooper Laws

- **Must Pick Up** – It shall be unlawful for any person owning or having control or custody of any dog to permit the animal to defecate upon the public property of this City or upon the private property of another unless the person immediately remove the feces and properly dispose of it. *(Health Code Sec. 40 (a))*
- **Must have a Bag** - It shall be unlawful for any person to walk a dog on public property of this City or upon the private property of another without carrying at all times a suitable container or other suitable instrument for the removal and disposal of dog feces. *(Health Code Sec. 40 (b))*

License Law - Every person owning, keeping or having control of any dog over the age of four months within the City and County of San Francisco shall within 30 days after the dog attains the age of four months or within 30 days of obtaining the dog, obtain a current license for each dog so owned, kept or controlled. *(Health Code Sec. 41.15 (a))*

Current RPD Resources

RPD Park Patrol

RPD Patrol Officers visit and respond to calls at 230 Recreation and Park facilities on 3,400 acres of land throughout the City including Neighborhood Parks, Playgrounds, Recreation Centers, Playing Fields, Natural Areas, Tennis Courts, Golf Courses, Park Stadiums and Administrative Park Offices.

- Currently four (4) staff
- Current staffing leaves a four (4) hour gap week days
- 24 hour coverage weekends
- Target enforcement to aggressive and malicious dogs
- Spot/random enforcement only option with existing staffing levels

Duties and responsibilities include patrol park areas, perform security checks, enforce park codes, issue citations, respond to park facility burglar alarms, apprehend in crime intervention, aid emergency services personnel (police, fire, and paramedics), monitor for public safety hazards, monitor to protect park wildlife, assist in other temporary emergency situations including road closures & blockades.

Additional resources provided to facilitate enforcement in parks of leash laws include:

- Sponsorship of ACC activities in parks.
- Training of recreation and gardening staff to reduce violations of leash laws - initiated 2002

- "Dog Line" an operator covers the 8:00 am to12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
- Call roster to identify appropriate agency for callers reporting dangerous or aggressive dogs
- Evaluation tool of DPA functionality

Proposed Compliance Strategies

Enforcement

- Strategically deploy limited RPD resources to hot spots as determined by Operation Park meetings, public input and staff observations.
- Encourage expansion of the RPD Park Ranger forces to allow more frequent and consistent enforcement of leash laws through out the system.
- Train and deputize RPD Department staff to enforce the Park Code and issue citations. Goal will be to achieve compliance, with citations used only as last resort. Model program after Mayor's new litter campaign utilizing Operation Park meetings with SFPD. Request SFPD assistance when RPD staff confronts violators, including the presence of a uniformed officer.
- Encourage public lobbying for enforcement of the Public Health Code through citywide policy makers.
- Develop a 24/7 Hot Line with our Park Patrol Office to report problem sites with a response within three business days.
- Explore feasibility of imposing fine for unlicensed dogs in parks with revenue retained by RPD in order to increase funding for leash law enforcement
- Explore feasibility of raising fines for lack compliance with leash laws.

Monitoring

- Report to DAC semiannually and in turn the Commission on an annual basis the number of complaints received and citations issued
- Direct Park rangers to collect data of all calls received for violations of leash laws
- Establish protocols for callers to call rangers to report off leash dogs.
- Explore feasibility of annually commissioning statistics for all violations of laws involving dogs, including bites and leash law violations
- Encourage staff to report problem facilities. Biannually evaluate conditions at each park for compliance with controllers standards, monitoring of leash law compliance may be integrated with this effort.
- Once after DAC approval of a DPA, monitor functionality including compliance with boundaries, pooper scooper laws, and leash laws in surrounding areas of the park utilizing RPD DPA evaluation tool. Review periodically.

Education/Signage

Signage - Continue signage program in compliance with new signage standards. Prioritize signage in parks with DPAs to clearly differentiate off leash areas from restricted access areas.

Bulletin Boards - Utilize bulletin boards where available for more detailed information such as:

- Text of relevant legislation and policy
- Fines
- Contacts for partners – work parties
- Children's art and messages
- Environmental concerns regarding dog impacts (e.g. dog waste impact on water quality)

Install bulletin boards as capital dollars are available. Partner with community sponsors to install as gift in place.

Brochure - Update and distribute RPD's tri-fold brochure featuring existing DPAs, relevant laws, and points of contact for violations and public inquiries.

Improving Partnerships

Increase partnerships with other enforcement agencies as well as community based organizations and related City Departments. As stated in Sec. 5.3 of the Policy, DAC members need to develop a partnership strategy for their group related to outreach and compliance.

For all enforcement agencies, aggressive or malicious dogs are the top priority for leash law enforcement. Resources limit enforcement to spot enforcement. Partnerships between RPD and other enforcement agencies should be pursued in support of all compliance strategies: enforcement, education, monitoring.

City Agencies

- Animal Care and Control:

RPD should collaborate with ACC in establishing educational materials, advance opportunities for funding ACC activities within park lands as a secondary opportunity augmenting RPD ranger enforcement as resources allow, and explore opportunities for collecting data regarding calls to ACC regarding incidents in parks.

> *ACC Mission - The Department of Animal Care and Control is committed to the delivery of effective, courteous, and responsive animal care and control services to the residents of this community. The Department is responsible for San Francisco's stray, injured, abandoned, neglected, and mistreated animals, as well as for the enforcement of all state and local Animal Control and Welfare laws.*

- SF Police Department:
  RPD should collaborate with SFPD in establishing educational materials, advance opportunities for collaboration with SFPD to deputize RPD gardening and recreation staff to augment RPD ranger enforcement as resources allow, and explore opportunities for collecting data regarding leash law violation reports, citations and bites. RPD should utilize Operations Park's monthly meetings to coordinate enforcement efforts in identified hot spots. RPD should explore feasibility of partnering in the SFPD Police reserves and Volunteer in Policing programs as avenues to assist in leash law enforcement where feasible.

  Prioritize collaborations with SFPD to enforce prohibitions of dogs in Children's Play Areas, and on athletic fields, tennis courts, and basketball courts.

> *Mission* - We, the members of the San Francisco Police Department, are committed to excellence in law enforcement and are dedicated to the people, traditions and diversity of our City. In order to protect life and property, prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime, we will provide service with understanding, response with compassion, performance with integrity and law enforcement with vision.

- Department of Public Health:
  RPD should approach DPH as a potential partner in establishing educational materials, as resources allow.

- Department of the Environment:
  RPD should approach DOE as a potential partner in establishing educational materials, as resources allow.

Community Based Organizations:
DPA Support Group - In order to implement Section 4.2 of the Dog Policy, RPD shall develop a template of standard language for every DPA between the Department and an appropriate DPA sponsor group. The template will include RPD and Partner responsibilities including expectations that partners will:

- Steward DPA to uphold policy standards
- Distribute DPA rules and other educational materials to park users
- Serve as good role models
- Ensure DPA is kept free of animal feces
- Alert RPD/Advisory Committee to maintenance needs
- Help establish priorities for repair and renovation
- Schedule routine cleanup/workdays as necessary
- Fundraise to support additional amenities based on DPA needs

The Policy states, "Partners will enter into a MOU/permit agreement with RPD under the auspices of the Advisory Committee. Failure to meet standards and responsibilities set forth in the MOU agreement will subject DPA to review by RPD. RPD retains the right to discontinue activities with any given partnership group."

RPD shall engage DPA support groups in regular dialogues addressing areas of mutual concern.

Other Interested Organizations - Additional examples of partnerships would include children's signage programs identifying sensitive areas sponsored by environmental groups, educational materials made available to pet guardians at the time of adoption, or sponsors of public service announcements regarding leash laws throughout the city. RPD should pursue as resources and opportunities become available.

Public Comments:

Members of the public stated frustration with DAC's focus on enforcement and the length of time spent with apparent lack of meaningful outcomes. Comments include frustration with the lack of any enforcement and with the idea that enforcement could be engaged prior to a complete system of useable DPAs.

DAC Comments:

KM: Stated inappropriate for DAC to vote having gotten materials for first time tonight Suggested inappropriate to place some materials on bulletin boards.

LK: Asked for clarification regarding partnerships for DPAs. What will be the prioritization? AE referred to letter from Dan McKenna in 2003, clarified with SFPD number one priority would be prohibition of dogs within athletic fields, child play areas, ball courts by use, not geography.

MH Reported draft reflected discussion of working group but noted timing had precluded possible prioritization or

CF: What is the reference to resources to ACC? AE: That is specifically referring to funding you're a staff person in your offices to focus/expand efforts in parks.

AL: In response AE pursue partnerships for all DPAs, identify support group. EM asked what DAC thinking was about having SFPD present with RPD staff but not necessarily doing the confrontation. One of the biggest problems is the absence of resources.

Modeling after Litter Campaign where SFPD and RPD staff together enforcing litter laws an option.

TH: Suggested going back to the Working Group and hashing out some of the points brought up tonight. Public comments were valuable. The Working Group needs to meet more than once, and needs to get draft ahead of time to go over before being brought back to DAC. Bring it back when it is ready to be voted on. The next time DAC sees the Draft, it will have the stamp of approval from the Enforcement Working Group. The proposed Draft will be posted on RPD's website, recognizing that the public should have input ahead of the meeting.

5. Discussion and possible action to recommend RPD Commission action on a proposed DPA adjacent to Big Rec athletic fields in Golden Gate Park.

AE presented staff report on community proposal for DPA at Big Rec.

Proposal was brought to DAC for a DPA in Upper Big Rec in the eastern end of Golden Gate Park. The area proposed for the DPA is just north of Big Rec athletic field bounded by a paved pathway, the vacant Concession building, handball court and steep planted slope.

Golden Gate Park is extensively used by on and off leash dog owners, world-wide travelers and local and regional visitors for a wide variety of uses. Just about any recreational use of our park is found in Golden Gate Park. Four DPAs serve GGP. One at Lincoln and 5th in the immediate adjacent area; another at Fulton and North Willard, 36th Ave. & M.L. King Dr., and a Dog Training Facility at 38th Ave & Fulton St.

The proposed site is immediately adjacent to an Athletic Field, (all athletic fields are off limits to dogs whether on or off leash) and the National Aids Memorial Garden. There is also an area used by Tai Chi practitioners and volleyball players. RPD staff has previously expressed concerns about off leash activities in the area, and SFPD officers have ticketed in the area.

The proposed sponsors for the Big Rec DPA have been stated opposition to use of that site for a number of reasons including mud, foxtails, a lack of open areas, conflicts with homeless, and adjacency to a busy road with no barrier. There has been some acknowledgement of improvements in the area. Proposal opponents have endorsed improvements to this site as an alternative to RPD approving the proposed DPA at Big Rec. DPA offerings in the 94122 zip code are average in terms of DPA space per dog.

The Dog Policy guidance:

- Requires a minimum size of 10,000 sq.ft. (1/4 of an acre) with preferably 30,000 sq.ft. (3/4's of an acre).

- Avoidance of dogs on athletic fields is a site criteria for DPAs
- Partnerships delineating a community group's role in education, clean up and compliance
- Large parks, which GGP certainly fulfill requirement for, do not require a hard barrier though some community members suggested in community meeting

Two proposals discussed were: Option A, which would be a ½ acre site (@ 25,000 sq.ft., and Option B, approximately 1 acre. The boundaries would be defined by signage and pathways. A visual aerial photo of Option A, the smaller of the sites, and Option B the larger of the sites was provided. The building in the middle is the handball court. The smaller site is to the north of the east ball field and the larger site is north of both athletic fields.

Community input on this process included community sponsors at Big Rec Dog having a petition that lists 180 petitioners. At the Community Meeting, there were 49 in attendance, and the records from that meeting reveal the split in the community about how to accommodate an off leash DPA in the area. 21 stated opposition to any off leash proposals. 18 endorsed a new DPA, but there was only one note for either A or B. 7 people asked for "the existing pattern of off leash dog use" to be codified, which was referred to as "Option C." There were 6 statements about the need for a fence (unclear if endorsing the DPA or simply want to contain a possible undesirable use). 7 stated desire for improvements to existing DPA.

Both Mission and Lowell High School baseball players stated opposition, submitted petitions and provided public comment against DPA. RPD staff's recommendation is that DAC recommend against any proposal for a new DPA at Big Rec. Recommend site improvements to MLK and 5th Ave. Community should be engaged in what improvements would make those usable DPAs. If they are not usable DPAs, then DAC should consider de-commissioning them, and look at alternative sites that are not in conflict with other users or the Dog Policy. While RPD does not endorse it, DAC now gets to vote and they can recommend, deny or modify the proposal. If DAC votes to recommend for RPD Commission Option A, Option B or Modified Proposal with fences or hard barriers or an expanded boundary, RPD staff will bring it to Commission for action. The Commission will vote for either RPD staff recommendation or DAC recommendation. But if the DAC vote to deny the petition RPD staff will incorporate site alternatives into system-wide planning and will engage in community dialogue about how to accommodate off leash use in sanctioned DPAs.

DAC Committee Responses to Proposals:
TH: If DAC votes on proposing DPA in that area and Commission votes against that, would it still be worked as a system-wide approach to creating other off leash sites?
AE: If Commission denied the site in Upper Big Rec, but did not make specific referrals, to not consider another DPA in Golden Gate Park or direct another way certainly we would continue review alternatives.

TH: So whether we vote for it tonight or not, that would still happen if the Commission doesn't approve the DPA.

AB: What is the main difference between Option C and Option B in terms of space usage. AE: In terms of Option C it wraps around both fields all the way almost to Lincoln - I don't know the exact boundary as we did evaluate this proposal but it is a very large area.

EM: What is the possibility of looking at process of properly fencing the site? If DAC were to vote on a modified proposal. I am concerned about displacing athletic use but this is not on top of athletic use, but adjacent to the athletic use. Is there a possibility in terms of funding and in terms of process to modify this and talk about fencing? AE: Don't believe there is a prohibition against fencing. Certainly RPD has faced very strongly stated public opinion opposing proposals for fencing. Further, as mentioned earlier, we have very restricted capital dollars available this year. Most will be going toward Mission Dolores.

EM: If RPD looked at in the site solution in context of long term planning is there any sense of how long that process would be? AE: Intent of RPD in system-wide planning for DPAs is to have dialogue over the next year. Have now the initial information about distribution of dogs. One of the things we will be doing is evaluating where off leash use is occurring and can it be codified in compliance with Dog Policy or identify reasons sites would have persistent conflict and where modifications are needed and engage the community in discussion of alternatives, perhaps on the existing site or a nearby site or prioritize enforcement.

JC: Why is Department opposed to site here? AE: Because we have one of our premier athletic fields adjacent to it, as stewards of SF parks we are at every moment looking at competing uses for every inch of our parks. We need to make very hard decisions about how to balance interests, make tradeoffs. If you were to approve Option A or B, C the expectation would be a lack of compliance, with dogs running on the ball fields. If it were fenced create other conflicts with trail use.

TH: Does the policy call for a buffer zone between uses? AE: There is not language about buffer zones, which is problematic in planning, functionally buffer zones are needed but that is not in the Dog Policy. In terms of fencing, Option C would not be a feasible option. There are many pathways that meet up there. You would have connections between Lincoln Way to National Aids Grove cut off by fences. Linkages to Shakespeare Garden cut off. You would have a major facility that is being fenced. Fencing this area would be a visual blight in a very open area. This is very different from creating fences at existing DPA, which would create a linear line on one edge by the roadside among shrubbery.

AB: Regarding RPD concern of field being overrun, was there thinking more people would come into the area to use it if it became a DPA? Or worried about the existing community there? AE: Both issues are a concern. Option C must greater. Option C is expanding from the bathroom area around both ball fields, wrapping around to the end of the meadow

Public Comment
Public comment included approximately 11 comments opposing siting of any DPA at site and 13 comments endorsing approval of a DPA at site. Speakers stating opposition included statements that dogs run on fields now, lack of options for baseball if field is destroyed, conflict with foul balls, and money for fencing better spent at existing DPA. Those endorsing included those stating willing to leash all dogs during games, move away from other users wanting to use site for other purposes, and support the school district building additional ball fields at school sites.

KM: Moved to recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission the approval of a DPA at Big Rec with the boundaries as illustrated in "Option C" (Big Rec website illustration) including barrier between Big Rec Athletic Field and the DPA, with the intent to enter into an agreement with BigRec Dog in support of the DPA.

KM's motion, seconded by CF, 8 yes votes, 1 no vote.

6. Committee Business.
The Enforcement Policy will not be brought back to the DAC until there has been sufficient consideration and public posting to allow meaningful deliberation. Duboce Park is expected to have a September community meeting and to be brought to the DAC for consideration in November. System wide planning will be discussed in September. A schedule of future agenda items was requested by AL.

7. Public Comment.
Public comments included concerns regarding system wide planning for DPAs and community input.

AE noted concern that no community proposals are being brought forth to the DAC, while numerous sites are used functionally as DPAs. As no approval is being sought, the system of incremental approval is breaking down. We need far better criteria than the existing pattern of use for approval of DPAs, as we have off leash dog play in nearly every park. Dog walkers speak to the need for off leash access to promote health and exercise yet we get requests for DPAs in parks immediately adjacent to each other because the next one is too far to walk. We get requests for DPAs because they make an area safer yet we are told DPAs that have homeless present are unusable. Planning for DPAs requires the DAC to be able to weigh compromises and

work together rather than listen to hours of comments and have 10 minutes of dialogue. AE looks forward to working with the DAC to resolve these issues.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

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NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, September 13th, 2005
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Approval of August 9, 2005 Minutes**
3. **General RPD update. (Discussion only) [15 minutes]**
4. **Discussion of the System Wide Approach to Planning for DPAs (Discussion Item) [60 minutes]**
5. **Discussion and Action to Endorse RPD, ACC and SFPD engaging in an interagency effort to draft enforcement policy for DAC's future comment and Recreation and Park Commission action. (Action Item) [20 minutes]**
6. **Committee Business (Discussion Only) [10 minutes]**
7. **Public comment. [15 minutes]**
8. **Adjournment**

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

FAX: (415) 221-8034
Phone: (415) 831-2700

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City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

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DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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September 13, 2005

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, September 13, 2005
County Fair Building

Minutes

1. Roll Call:

PRESENT:

Tamar Hurwitz (TH), President, Department of Environment
Laurie Kennedy (LK), SF-SPCA
Carl Friedman (CF), Animal Care and Control Department
Sgt. William Herndon (WH), SFPD Dog Investigation Unit
Arnold Levine (AL), EQUP
Marybeth Wallace (MBW), Coleman Advocates
Keith McAllister (KM), SFDOG
Mark Heath (MH), California Native Plant Society
Jill Chase (JC), San Francisco Veterinary Association

ABSENT:

Andrea Brooks, Vice President, P.A.W.S.
Elizabeth Murdock, Golden Gate Audubon Society

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Recreation and Park Department Staff:

Amber Evans (AE), RPD Liaison to DAC
Christine Manning

Discussion of Rules of Order:

TH: Discussed the process for Public Comment at DAC Meetings, which shall adhere to all City and State Public Meeting Laws.

2.Approval of Minutes

Correction to August 9, 2005, Minutes:

KM: In discussion of Enforcement Policy "Under DAC Comments" Delete: "Suggested inappropriate to place some materials on bulletin boards." as he does not recall his statements.

KM: Wording under Discussion of DPA adjacent to Big Rec athletic fields in Golden Gate Park. Wished to clarify wording, replacing "that site" with "the DPA at Lincoln & 5th Ave."

LK: Motion to approve minutes with changes, seconded by CF. Minutes were approved with changes.

3.General RPD Update.

AE: Reported that RPD is in the process of hiring an additional Park Ranger. A Job Description has been released today, which is great news.

AE: RPD has been contacted by SF Department of Water, who are looking at expanding their public education campaign regarding feces and its potential impact on water quality. They wish to work with us to identify places to put additional dog dispenser bags and public education notices about the impact of feces being left on sites, particularly next to bodies of water such as Lake Merced, the Marina, not necessarily DPAs but any site where there might be on or off leash dogs near bodies of water.

AL: Stated he believed there are 6 park rangers just stationed at Candlestick Park, is it possible to rotate them out to work in the parks.

AE: Stated that would be a decision within the Department or the Commission. How to determine that is not something she is aware of but can ask the question.

4.Discussion of the System Wide Approach to Planning for DPAs.

AE: Would like to have a rich discussion among the DAC participants, run through the slides and talk about the material within them. The entire presentation can be found on the Department's website at:
http://www.parks.sfgov.org/wcm_recpark/Dogpolicy/SWPA_IDP.pdf
under the heading *System Wide Planning Approach to Implement Dog Policy – DAC – September 13, 2005.*

A summary of points in the presentation is found below:

- Current DPAs on map showing distribution of DPAs in San Francisco.
- Incremental Progress: Progress on Proposal for System Wide DPA Planning
- Implementation Strategy, NOT New Policy
- Still Allow Community Proposals
- Implementing Site Suitability Criteria
- Improve Community Meetings for Site Specific Proposals
- Multiple Community Meetings for Site Specific Proposals
- Additional Opportunities for DPAs
- Identifying Mismatch in Supply & Demand
- Licensed Dogs in San Francisco
- Proactive Approach
- Evaluate De Facto DPAs
- Balance of Uses
- Explore Alternative Financing
- Pursue Partnerships
- Implement Leash Law Enforcement
- System Wide Planning

AE: In 1999 Dog Task Force Report identified 18 opportunities for DPAs. Since then of those included in the report, 6 were approved, one was rejected due to community opposition (Sunnyside Playground), one has a proposal under consideration (Duboce Park), and 10 sites have been not addressed though Stern Grove Trail has been approved and Walter Haas Playground is under construction with a dog run and Redevelopment Agency at Mission Bay are also planning additional sites.

RPD is now proposing that these sites and others meeting minimum criteria throughout the system can now be brought into a process of looking system wide at where additional DPAs need to be located. Right now we have many parks being used functionally as DPAs but that might not be the best use of that park. Need more stringent criteria for evaluating parks. It will be critically important to proactively engage local communities in this dialogue and evaluate all the priority areas for viability as a functional DPA.

To be clear , what this system wide approach to planning DPAs does is implement Section 3.1 of the Dog Policy. A lot of work went into this to give us clear criteria. Now how do we apply them? Where is there available park land; what is the proximity to natural areas and how to avoid conflict there; what is the dog population and what about other uses in the park? What does it mean to implement them?

The system wide approach is to look at additional opportunities for DPAs. Looking at, formalizing and revising informal sites in areas that have high density of dogs, that don't have DPAs or they are too few or too small. What has been done to date was to look at existing demand as a proxy that we can use of licensed dogs and its

distribution throughout the city versus the existing DPA acreage we offer, and then looking at the proportional difference of these. That is acreage available versus distribution of dogs. RPD intent is for every dog coming into a DPA to be licensed. License data gives us the means to identify where priority neighborhood gaps are.

There is a list is of places with dogs consistently in them. Some of these are bad choices, some are compromised choices, while some may be great choices. Need to look at them systematically against criteria so that we can understand if it is appropriate use of these parks. Concurrently there are a number of DPAs that dog owners have mentioned don't work. There should be a system that works, and if we have dog parks that don't work at all, they should be closed so we can redirect maintenance activities.

DAC Members Comments:
LK: Get process moving quickly with Committee. With prioritization would like to see how quickly we could come up with criteria for Timed Use.

TH: After we have finished talking about Enforcement a little later, once we move on we will have Working Group on Timed Use working on that early next year.

CF: Concerned that this is a major shift in focus. Since 1999 progress of 50% of proposed sites due with money and resources being less and less available. Suggest we consider when we will sunset the DAC.

AE: If we get to a place where we are at a site specific level negotiations, the community is engaged and a proposal can go to the Commission having been ironed out, and the site meets basic criteria set by the policy and implemented by the DAC we may no longer need the DAC. The Commission has before it the criteria, capital improvement priorities, a clear sense of how to evaluate proposals that come back to it from the community and it is mediated either by RPD or other city services, does DAC need to be in existence by that point in the process? In theory proposals wouldn't be coming out of the community process to DAC until those details have been ironed out and the different factions have already stated their negotiable and non-negotiable items. It is possible we can start this process and DAC doesn't need to be around for the end of it Elizabeth Murdock at a prior meeting asked explicitly about what is the timing of such a process. In January of next year I hope we will have list of sites meeting basic criteria. It feels big, monumental. but DAC needs to look at the things in the policy that have been left as loose ties and address those while the planning process sis incrementally moved forward.

MH: Looking forward to comprehensive process. DAC should be involved in the process. Need to have citywide forum to advocate for communities. Look at communities as a whole i.e. Departments, Natural areas and children who are not at meetings and need to be represented as a whole.

WH: Enforcement aspects when realized. RPD needs to work out enforcement internally.
MBW: Thought a lot of people don't know they've lost park areas until it's gone. So the idea of really examining where DPAs should be and having an open process is better than having some people however many people come to a meeting and want to take away park space. The park needs to be looked at in a broader sense. Has a concern about licensed dogs. Is there any capability of licensing more dogs?

CF: The open process is in place. Propose to raise fines to go toward enforcement. Have additional sites come forward?

AE: Holly Park representatives have been in touch about an alternate site from the one previously denied by DAC. Also have been approached generally for a small dog park in Presidio Heights and of course Duboce Park is in process. No others.

AL: The first priority should be to distinguish sites inappropriate for DPA's. It is inappropriate for Sunnyside Playground to be on list of De Facto DPAs when there have been multiple community meetings, petitions, etc. against having a DPA there. If McLaren Park has 60 acres of land allocated for DPAs perhaps these need to be looked for reduction and evaluated to encourage more use. How does the service area of children's play areas compare to DPAs?

AE: General Plan provide policy guidance not by facility but by size of park so we do not have standard for service area in place. There are 52 children's play areas.

AL: Why consider siting DPA at maximum size of ¾ of an acre, rather than 10,000 sq.ft, the minimum?

AE: The larger size makes for a more stringent site criteria (and eliminated mini parks – which would then potentially become single use parks - from priority consideration . It does not mean that all DPAs would be designed at the maximum size – such would be a site specific decision which policy guides and communities can negotiate.

AL: Recently looked at how ACC calculates the number of dogs in city. Unclear how ACC considers the high percentage of renters in city.

CF: Use American Veterinary Association methods. In California, 35% of households have dogs. While San Francisco have a higher rental rate [and thus may have fewer households with dogs] , the average number of dogs among household with any dogs is inherently greater then 1 – so the method undercounts as much as it over counts.

MBW: What about MOUs for Friends groups? What kind of obligation will Friends groups have in the future, or ask that existing DPAs have an MOU.

AE: Both existing and new Friends of DPAs should have MOUs. Clear from maintenance aspects that we need partnerships in every DPA. Prioritizing identifying an organized group in every proposed new DPA because that is when the organization comes together. Have been talking at Duboce about how to integrate MOU into that process. Also talking to existing Friends groups to say the template being developed about their questions and concerns. Intent is to have standardize language, unless there are clauses specific to the site, such as a body of water. In some cases may need to have additional language, but 90% of MOA should be standard. Need to consider how anomalies are addressed such as if there are capital needs. Right now the language is word for word out of the policy. RPD does have individually negotiated maintenance agreements for other sites.

TH: AL's point well taken that Sunnyside Playground is on list of De Facto DPAs even though community meetings were held and DAC decided not to have a DPA there. It brings us back to the enforcement issues. If it is being used as a De Facto DPA then that is exactly why enforcement needs to kick in to make it work. It was good to see that there was an indication that the ability to implement physical barriers and buffers between athletic fields or children's play areas and DPAs will be a site criteria. How will this criteria be applied? Is a specific buffer been established?

AE: This is an example of a criteria that needs better definition what I am looking forward to is working with DAC to better define. I took language from the policy and tried to translate into an implementalable criteria but do not have language on buffer zones. Physical barriers are defined by the size of the park in the policy not by the level of use or type of use around the proposed DPA, yet avoiding such conflicts are prescribed. So I am looking at how to work within the policy to have more logical buffers and barriers, with the flexibility in the policy. Ideally DAC or RPD will look to other community best practices and standards for this.

TH: Want RPD to do the research and come back to DAC with suggestions versus doing the work ourselves. Think we need to consider if we can we just sunset. Acknowledge some members are tired. It has been a long process with many frustrations and setbacks. Appreciate AE coming up with a plan to crystalize things and make them happen more directly. Some suggestions that if the community is involved in the process, what about the Department as a whole, natural areas, children, and other factions not always represented at community meetings. If community meetings are effective and really got this dynamic that is working and goes mechanically straight to the Commission does DAC need to be there? There is nothing really written about that.

DAC was put together to do the work and recommend to the Commission so the Commission did not have to do the work of taking all the input. We are like the Commission's working group. Maybe the Commission doesn't need the working

group, and they can go straight to the source once the process is improved and enforcement aspects addressed.

KM: The last time DAC approved a new DPA was Jefferson Square in 2003 [that has gotten Commission approval]. Stern Grove Trail have still not been taken to the Commission.. Duboce Park was taken out of the DAC process and Big Rec. came forward despite the Department denying them?

LK: We have addressed lots of controversy and I most often feel bad for the community representatives -they care so much. With the problems with budget, large agencies and conflicting priorities there is a lot of frustration. It is hard to have democracy. I want to be here for Committee and hand over planning control to RPD if they want to go in that direction.

MH: DAC has passively sat and waited, very frustrating. A lot of pressure put on RPD. I am encouraged by the direction of RPD leadership in defining areas to engage in community with tools available and operate more effectively and then allow DAC to be sunsetted. Don't have a clearly defined policy. Want to operate more efficiently.

JC: Being a new member it is interesting to see how things have been going on. Hearing about how you are waiting for people to come to you to stating they need a DPA at this or that park. DAC should be more pro-active. This is the plan that says we know we need a dog park, here are the areas outlined and here are the areas where they could be located. As a City we should be saying here are the areas available.

KM: Some proposals looked good, some others were modified based on community meetings before DAC even saw them.

WH: 18 DPAs established long time ago with no community based group. RPD just proceeded to band together with groups that wanted to regulate where dogs could run unrestricted. Have not done our job – need to review proposals. Need to explore Timed Use. We should sunset committee if there are no community proposals.

KM: Dog owners need flat surfaces for throwing balls to their dogs and other such activities.

AE: I want to clarify my statement about fees and fines, a member if the public asked about. The initial approach is to explore fees that improve DPAs either through new capital improvements or increased maintenance, understanding that such fees would raise user expectations. While fines are imposed for infractions of rules and would be targeted to enforcement. That was the distinction that was made. In regards to flat areas, flat areas will certainly be considered for DPAs, but

in some cases RPD may prioritize sites with mild topography for DPAs, particularly in parks with limited flat lands and multiple uses.

JC: I want to address licensing fees issue. There needs to be more media publicizing the need to license our dogs. There are a lot of reasons people don't license, but there are a group of people out there that would be licensing, that are not aware. We are going to address this at the next veterinary medical physician's meeting. We are trying to get the word out, so vets are on board with protocol.

Public comment was heard from 9 speakers echoing similar themes expressed by DAC members, with one comment indicating the DAC's lack of community proposals has less to do with DAC process and more to do with lack of enforcement anywhere in the system.

5.Discussion and Action to endorse RPD, ACC and SFPD engaging in an interagency effort to draft enforcement policy for DAC's future comment and Recreation and Park Commission action.

TH: Her experience sitting on committee and hearing from others all over, is enforcement discussion has gotten very large, frustrating, unclear and challenging with many asking why are we doing it anyway? The suggestion and what we are here to discuss and vote on is to hand the enforcement draft policy back to the agencies responsible for enforcement, let them come up with something, give it back to us to look at, review, question and then vote on at that point. So it is effectively disbanding Enforcement Working Group as it has been and redirecting that effort to RPD, ACC and SFPD.

AL: Who would be on this committee and would they be the same people that were on the other working committee. Would there be a conflict of interest, because they are two separate entities?

TH: Do not know if it is a conflict of interest of the DAC working group in establishing an enforcement policy. It seems that DAC is able to give absolute feedback on draft policy submitted to us and either vote to recommend it or not. It is still an open process.

AL: Will there be the possibility of some sort of internal component. This is obviously an external thing. Is that going to be among the three people from the agencies (RPD, ACC, SFPD) or will DAC be able to see it and have input?. How will it jive with work that's been done?

AE: The wording of the dog policy is that RPD should engage in an interagency joint policy for the Commission's review. The General Manager has said that the Commission will want to see DAC's comments on any proposal coming to them. The proposed process includes the interagency reviewed draft coming to DAC at its next meeting, so DAC can review and comment in a very open process. Much frustration has been discussed by the public means of commenting and the DAC rationally

discussing it if they haven't seen the draft. The draft will be made available to the public on the website two weeks prior to that meeting.
The DAC's vote tonight includes this process. The agencies are being asked to review the Draft initiated by DAC and commented on by the DAC's sub-committee.

CL: It is critical the policy identify who is responsible for what. Internally and when is it SFPD. When something is not being done who is responsible.

TH: DAC has the opportunity to give input. So if we get something like "where is the part about ...we saw before", it will be added into the Draft if the DAC is in agreement. It absolutely makes sense that those charged with the task to enforce be responsible for putting the Enforcement Plan together and giving it to us for review.

Public comment was expressed by 6 speakers largely endorsing process being proposed.

LK: Moved "DAC endorses RPD, ACC and SFPD engaging in the review and revision of the Draft Enforcement Policy to be brought back to DAC for review and action." seconded by KM. Unanimously approved by all DAC members.

6.Committee Business:

TH: Will be having a DAC Meeting on October 11, 2005, to discuss and possibly take action on the draft of Enforcement Policy as endorsed in this meeting. The draft policy can be found at:
http://www.parks.sfgov.org/wcm_recpark/Dogpolicy/DEP_091905.pdf
Also to be discussed will be Upper Noe DPA.

November meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 15th, due to Election Night being November 8th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, October 11th, 2005
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

1. Roll Call

2. Approval of September 6, 2005 Minutes

3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [10 minutes]

4. Discussion and Action to Recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission Adoption of the Dog Enforcement and Good Neighbor Policy (Action Item) [60 minutes]

The draft policy recommendations can be found on SF RPD's website at:
http://www.parks.sfgov.org/wcm_recpark/Dogpolicy/DEP_091905.pdf

5. Discussion and Action to Recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission Revisions to the Proposed Expansion of the DPA at Upper Noe (Action Item) [30 minutes]

6. Committee Business (Discussion Only) [10 minutes]

7. Public comment. [10 minutes]

8. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

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501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

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October 11, 2005

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, October 11, 2005, 6:30 P.M.
County Fair Building

Minutes

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1. Roll Call:

DAC Members:

Present: Laurie Kennedy (LK), Acting Chair, SFSPCA
Sgt. William Herndon (WH), SFPD Dog Incident Investigations Unit
Keith McAllister (KM), SFDOG
Elizabeth Murdock (EM), Golden Gate Audubon Society
Arnold Levine (AL), (EQUP)
Jill Chase (JC), San Francisco Veterinary Association

Absent: Tamar Hurwitz, Chair, Department of Environment
Andrea Brooks, Vice Chair, (P.A.W.S.)
Carl Friedman, Animal Care & Control Department
Marybeth Wallace, Coleman Advocates for Youth
Mark Heath, California Native Plant Society

Recreation and Park Department staff:
Amber Evans (AE), RPD/DAC Liaison
Keith Kawamura (KK), Project Manager, Capital Division
Paul Travis (PT), Project Architect for Upper Noe Renovation Project
Christine Manning, Secretary

In absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, Laurie Kennedy was asked to chair the meeting.

A discussion was held regarding the fact that there were only six members of DAC present at the meeting and the voting rules requiring a majority of the membership - 6 members - (not just those present, 4) to carry a motion. As such, only a unanimous vote of those in attendance could carry a motion.

2. Approval of September 13, 2005 Minutes:

AL: Did RPD already met with Animal Care & Control and SFPD prior to asking DAC to endorse disbanding of the DAC Enforcement Subcommittee and endorsing revision of the Draft Enforcement Policy? I am concerned by lack of disclosure of this when we voted to disband the subcommittee.

AE: It is correct RPD met with agencies prior to DAC vote. In terms of process, RPD looked at the dog policy and heard frustrations voiced at August DAC meeting and determined that it was appropriate for us to meet with ACC and SFPD to discuss the draft that the sub-committee had already furnished. Talked with Chair about process and options of either bringing agencies' comments back to subcommittee, if DAC chose to continue sub-committee, or bringing revised policy straight to DAC, if DAC endorsed that process. Either way, meeting with agencies was deemed key to process. Had already been told that it was unclear that the enforcement sub-committee should continue by the DAC Vice Chair, who was chairing that sub-committee. My apologies for any discomfort process caused.

AL: Request revision of September minutes to clarify this process.

AE: Request we record this clarification in tonight's meeting but as I did not clarify this in September, I suggest we adopt minutes for that meeting as is, while recording tonight's meetings with this clarification.

Motion to adopt minutes of September 13, 2005 as presented without changes by KM, seconded by WH.

3. General RPD Update.

RPD is in discussion with the Mayor's Office of Community Development and a design firm that has been hired to create a new park including a dog play area underneath the freeway off-ramp (Cal Trans Property) at Valencia and Duboce. There have been several different scenarios, and AE will report on what progress develops. It is not RPD property but we are being asked to participate in developing plans for a park at the site and to provide on-going maintenance. Maintenance will be funded from Caltrans leases of another portion of the site to be leased for parking or commercial use such as Uhaul. It is a unique opportunity to develop a new park including other recreational uses such as a skate park and athletic courts. Due to site constraints the proposed DPA will likely be less than 10,000 square feet, though at least 8,000 sq. ft. Surfacing is unknown.

In response to a Public Comment in which a question was raised about the status of Big Rec DPA proposal and rumor Recreation and Park Commission would not be reviewing, AE stated will be meeting with RPD's General Manager and ask if he has made such statements but not aware of any such decision. I understand Department is in preparation of the staff recommendation and prepared to bring DAC's divergent recommendation. Bylaws suggest DAC members themselves would bring a DAC recommendation and dissenting positions forward but as not historically carried out in this manner, unlikely to implement immediately and staff will present both proposals – though some issues to resolve before presenting options.

4. Discussion and Action to recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission adoption of the Dog Enforcement and Good Neighbor Policy.

AE: This version of the Enforcement and Good Neighbor Policy was placed on RPD's website for public review prior to this meeting. The previous draft was brought to Marcus Santiago, RPD Park Ranger, and I sat down with him and talked about some of the items in it. Key in that discussion was the inability to deputize RPD gardening and recreation staff. He did not think it was feasible. Park Rangers are specifically stated within the Health Code as a category of officers that can enforce the leash law, whereas gardeners and recreation directors are not. The draft and Marcus' comments were then reviewed with the Department's General Manager. The recommendation to deputize gardeners and advocacy for other agencies' roles (given action is for RPD Commission only) were struck from the last draft. Then the draft was brought to Animal Care and Control and Police for further refinement and specific language regarding the roles they could commit to in partnership with RPD.

Regardless of Subcommittee status RPD wanted DAC input on the language. Bringing this document forward to Recreation and Park Commission without DAC feedback on such a complicated issue would have Commission asking why staff didn't get DAC's comments, which are needed to understand the concerns and issues. RPD has the right to meet with other agencies to get their expertise. Commission is to direct RPD resources not other agencies so the narrower focus of the draft policy seen here is not an abdication of their duties but a clear reflection of the limited nature of RPD's scope of authority.

Some DAC members raised concerns regarding both a lack either a strong commitment from other agencies or advocacy from SFRPD for such. Others raised concerns regarding using fees to increase enforcement. The following changes/corrections were suggested by DAC members for the Final Draft of the Enforcement and Good Neighbor Policy Recommendation as follows:

- Include existing fee levels. (see notes following minutes)

Revise language under Proposed Compliance Strategies as follows:

Enforcement

- Encourage expansion of the RPD Park Ranger forces to allow more frequent and consistent enforcement of leash laws through out the system including reallocation of funds provided to ACC to the hiring of RPD Park Rangers.
- Explore feasibility of the Board of Supervisors increasing fines and expanding collection of fines in order to increase funding for enforcement.
- Explore feasibility of issuing warning citations and appropriate tracking system integrated with ACC current system of issuing warning citation including developing standard procedures for the issuing citations, warnings and escalating fines and training rangers in procedures.

Education/Signage

Public Service Announcements – Solicit guardians to include information about the locations, features, and rules of conduct for SFRPD dog play areas in newsletters, brochures, and websites for requesting immediate assistance.

Improving Partnerships

Move reference to Section 5.3 to introduction of Community Based Organizations: As stated in Sec. 5.3, of the policy, "RPD strongly believes the greatest voice for following established rules and policies will be from DPA partners and users."

Move Mayor's Office of Disability partnership language under Seniors and Disabled partnerships:
Seniors and Disabled – RPD enforcement policy should allow the flexibility for a disabled/senior access license, allowing qualifying (temperament tested) dogs and guardians limited off leash access in local parks, not designated as DPAs should such a program be sponsored by the Mayor's Office of Disability or another third party, such as PAWS. Such a policy should only be pursued if resources exist to strictly enforce the qualifications of participants

Motion by WH to approve with amendments as discussed, seconded by KM, with 4 yes votes, with 2 no vote.

The Draft, with language changes as requested above, can be found at:
http://www.parks.sfgov.org/wcm_recpark/Dogpolicy/DEP_102405.pdf

5. Discussion and Action to Recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission Revisions to the Proposed Expansion of the DPA at Upper Noe Playground.

AE: Introduced Keith Kawamura, Project Manager with RPD's Capital Division, and Paul Travis, Project Architect for the Upper Noe Recreation Center Renovation Project. A portion of the project includes a DPA. Keith is coming to DAC with proposed revisions to the expansion of the existing DPA that more realistically reflect costs of project.

Keith set up schematics showing the proposed revisions. He stated that a community meeting was held last week to present plans for revisions to the DPA approved in 2003. It was received favorably at the meeting. Previously the community approved plans and that went forward to the Commission and was approved as a concept. He indicated current DPA is on flat part of site but expansion areas include steep slopes. RPD has put in an accessible pathway, seating, and improved the drainage. However the next phase of expansion included features that may exceed the project budget and require excessive tree removal. Specifically a retaining wall and separate accessible path of travel could prove to be very costly and have high landscape impacts. The new alternative accomplishes the same goals of expansion to at least 10,000 sq. ft., while changing access, and thereby saving trees. This is accomplished by realigning entry to allow use of a signal point of entry from Day Street and the use of decking over steep areas. The changes may allow for improved fencing with the savings from the removal of a retaining wall in the project. Additionally, unfortunately, the decomposed granite that was put in with the recommendation of DAC has proven not to be very successful. Ideally, DAC would also provide guidance on a proper ground cover to be used in the DPA

The new proposed conceptual plan deletes an ADA ramp from Day Street that exclusively services the DPA and replaces it with a new accessible service ramp for both pedestrians and service vehicles. Day street expansion takes advantage of the level area beyond centerfield and provides 200' long run. The area along right field will require a 4' retaining wall to level out the grade. The paving surface will be replaced as part of the expansion. A "floating" deck above existing slope would add approximately 750 sq. ft. to bring the total site to 10,580 sq. ft. New trees and landscaping will improve this edge of the park. Installing 6' fence along Day Street. Removal of deteriorating 25' fence on east side of DPA and replacing with 8' fence improves quality. Provides on-site accessible path from rec. center to the ball field and doubles as accessible path of travel from 30th Street while deleting costly ramp/retaining wall. Replacement of the existing stairs from 30th Street creates a direct landscaped pedestrian corridor between Day Street and 20th Street.

DAC members discussed with Keith different aspects of the proposed changes to the design for Upper Noe DPA, including appropriate height of fence, which on Day St was considered to be 5' at a minimum – higher then discussed at the community meeting. Several members asked questions about what the budget of the original phase of DPA was, how much has been spent, and wanted a better breakdown of projected costs of the revised plan for the Upper Noe DPA. Others were interested in maximizing the available play space through the use of decking or other design solutions in the heart of the DPA asking about the feasibility of extending the decking east and surfacing south. KK and PT stated limitations would be the actual construction costs when the project was bid out. Paul Travis explained that the reason for the presentation of the revision of the Upper Noe DPA was to discuss the characteristics of

the design, with finance, a separately addressed issue. They do know that they have reduced the amount of concrete work, reduced the amount of landscape work and a number of other aspects, so believe they are saving money. Additionally they have reduced the amount of fencing. Does not know exactly how much was reduced because these designs were just preliminary.

Motion to recommend to the Recreation and Parks Commission approval of the revised plan to extend Upper Noe DPA with minor modifications including extending surfacing as far south as possible in the primary play area and east on decking to extent financially feasible by LK, seconded by KM with a vote of 5 yes, 1 no.

As motion did not carry, discussed what process should be, whether to send this item back to DAC next month when there are more members present. KK noted project needs to go to contract and a delay in bringing project to the Commission could delay project – the top concern of the community. PT noted cannot go back to original plan, because there is not enough money for the project. Discussed whether to refer to Recreation and Park Commission without a recommendation – no vote was taken. AE noted that an interim version impacted the soccer field but the current causes no conflict with Dog Policy such that it really reflects construction changes that are traditionally not revisited by Committee.

EM asked what nest steps were given neither vote carried given the low membership turn out and need for unanimous votes. AE said she would report at the next meeting but possible Commission action might be taken without further DAC actions, noting comments and votes from DAC.

6. Committee Business: No Committee business was presented.
7.Public Comment
8.Adjournment: 9:44 p.m.

Fees for violations of laws pertaining to dogs in parks are as follows:

- Violation of leash law – no leash or owner not present is $32.
- Failure to pick up feces - $320
- Failure to have container for feces - $320
- Licensing fees/Violation of license law - The fee for licensing a dog is $25/year with discounts for multiple year registration, senior citizens, and, most significantly, altered dogs. The fee for violation of the license fee is $32, with legislation pending to increase to $100.

City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

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NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF MEETING

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, November 15, 2005
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING, AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

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Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY, December 13th, 2005
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way
Gallery Room

AGENDA

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1. Roll Call
2. Approval of October 11, 2005 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [30 minutes]
4. Discussion and Action to Recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission Adoption of the Proposed Off Leash Play Area at Duboce Park (Action Item) [60 minutes]

The proposed design can be found on the web at:
http://dubocepark.com/assets/recnpark/dogs/Duboce_Park_Rendering2.jpg

5. Committee Business (Action Item) [20 minutes]
   - Vice Chair Elections
6. Public comment. [10 minutes]
7. Adjournment

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December 13, 2005

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, December 13, 2005, 6:30 p.m.
County Fair Building
Minutes

1. Roll Call:
DAC Members:
Present: Tamar Hurwitz (TH), Chair, Department of Environment
Andrea Brooks (AB), Vice Chair, P.A.W.S.
Keith McAllister (KM), SFDOG
Laurie Kennedy (LK), SF-SPCA
Arnold Levine (AL), EQUP
Marybeth Wallace (MBW), Coleman Advocates
Jill Chase (JC), San Francisco Veterinary Medical Association
Carl Friedman (CF), Animal Care & Control Department
Sgt. William Herndon (WH), SFPD Dog Incident Investigation Unit
Elizabeth Murdock (EM), Golden Gate Audubon Society
Absent: Mark Heath, California Native Plant Society
Recreation and Park Department Staff:
Amber Evans (AE), RPD/DAC Liaison
Scott Reese (SR), Superintendent of Neighborhood Services

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2. Approval of October 11, 2005 Minutes
Motion to adopt minutes of October 11, 2005 as presented without changes was approved, and seconded.
3. General RPD Update
Enforcement Policy: Amber Evans, RPD Park Planner/DAC Liaison, gave an update on the last meeting in October. There was discussion and a motion to endorse the Enforcement policy. That motion failed. A discussion followed on what would happen with the Enforcement Policy. On direction from the General Manager that Enforcement Policy with changes per discussion with DAC at the last meeting incorporated and will be moved forward with staff recommendation for endorsement to RPD with notation that DAC did not endorse the Enforcement Policy to be brought to the Commission. RPD will be voting and taking action on the Enforcement Policy in January, 2006. There was a question if there needed to be a majority of the DAC membership or a majority of those present to pass a motion. RPD Counsel did advise that a majority of the DAC membership was needed to carry a motion. Seven votes were necessary for the motion to pass, and it failed.

Proposed Upper Noe DPA: AE stated that the action item at the October DAC Meeting went to RPC with the notation that the motion by DAC to endorse the project failed to carry. RPC then took action to require an MOA with a guardian group at Upper Noe, before they would approve relinquishing funds to the project. Subsequently, the Upper Noe Dog Group, Day Park Dogs, held a productive meeting with RPD staff and showed them an initial standard template for an MOA to come up with site specific agreements that would be made and signed by the group, so the project will move forward.

AE introduced Scott Reese, Superintendent of Neighborhood Services, who will be taking her place as RPD Liaison to DAC, and he briefly discussed his background and hopes working with DAC. DAC expressed its thanks to Amber for her hard work.
4. Discussion and Action to Recommend to Recreation and Park Commission Adoption of Proposed Off Leash Play Area at Duboce Park.
AE presented a staff recommendation for a proposed DPA at Duboce Park. The contents of the presentation will give background on the dog policy, and put it in context of reviewing existing conditions, review proposal as it comes to DAC, solicit public comment and then have DAC make a motion and vote on the proposal and recommend it to RPC. AE made a presentation of the proposed Duboce Dog Play Area, which will be made available on the website in its final version following discussions tonight. The presentation included the following topics:
· Dog Policy
· Dog Policy Boundaries/Barriers - Types
· Park Code - Prohibitions
· Existing Conditions - Conflicts
· Task Force - Stakeholders: Endorsed, Neutral, Opposed
· Proposal
· Proposal Plan
· Improvements
· Size in Context
· Next Steps
Amanda Kahn, representing Supervisor Dufty's office, was asked about fencing/pathway aspects of the proposal and some clarity about the task force's position.
DAC members discussed with AE and Scott Reese aspects of the proposal including traffic/safety concerns, fencing/barrier, shared use options, enforcement issues with design, MOA aspects as it concerns Duboce Park Group, dog policy concerns with aspects of proposal, drainage concerns, pathway design, and community uses of park. Members of the task force were present as well as community proponents in support of the proposal. Approximately 65 citizens attended the meeting. The 40 public speakers questioned aspects of the DPA proposal, features of the design, difficulties with dog issues presently, questioned enforcement and safety issues, multi-user aspects of park and community, and came in their capacities as members of the Duboce Park neighborhood association groups, and as proponents, neutral and opposition members of the task force. The majority of the speakers were in support of the proposal, recognizing it to be a compromise opportunity for all users of the park.

DAC members were polled to discuss any concerns and make comments prior to voting on the proposal. Several members felt it to be important that the MOA be signed and in effect prior to beginning any work on the DPA and some monitoring done. A vote was taken and there was unanimous approval to recommend the proposed DPA.

5. Committee Business:
At the last meeting of the year election of Vice Chair is conducted. Laurie Kennedy was unanimously voted by DAC to serve as Vice Chair beginning in January, 2006. Thanks to Andrea Brooks for her great service over the past two years. Tamar Hurwitz will continue as Chair as appointed by the RPD General Manager. AE on behalf of the General Manager asked that all present members continue to serve another term next year.
Timed Use Committee was announced by TH. The members of the Committee will include Keith McAllister, Marybeth Wallace and Laurie Kennedy. AF questioned who sets the committees and if there was any way to get on this one. TH answered that as Chair, she determines all working group committees and said she was confident that the current Timed Use Committee would do a thorough and fair job of gathering the best information out there to present to DAC on the Timed Use Issue.
6. Public Comment
7. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco **Recreation and Park Department**

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RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2006
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING, AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

SF
R28.25
#1
1/10/06
cancelled

THE NEXT DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2006, 6:30 P.M.
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2084

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

FAX: (415) 221-8034
Phone: (415) 831-2700

City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, February 7, 2006
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way
Gallery Room

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AGENDA

1. Roll Call

2. Approval of December 13 , 2005 Minutes

3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [20 minutes]

4. System-wide Dog Play Area Strategy Overview (Discussion only) [30 minutes]

5. Committee Business [10 minutes]

6. Public comment. [20 minutes]

7. Adjournment

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February 07, 2006

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, February 7, 2006, 6:30 P.M.
County Fair Building

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MINUTES

1. Roll Call:

DAC Members:

Present: Tamar Hurwitz (TH), Chair, Department of the Environment

Jill Chase (JC), San Francisco Veterinary Medical Association
Carl Friedman (CF), Animal Care and Control Department
Mark Heath (MH), California Native Plant Society
Sgt. William Herndon (WH), SFPD Dog Incident Investigation Unit

Arnold Levine (AL), (EQUP)
Keith McAllister (KM), SFDOG
Elizabeth Murdock (EM), Golden Gate Audubon Society

Absent: Andrea Brooks, P.A.W.S.
Laurie Kennedy, SF-SPCA
Marybeth Wallace (MBW), Coleman Advocates

Recreation and Park Department (RPD):
Scott Reese (SR), Superintendent of Neighborhood Services

2. Approval of December 13, 2005, Minutes:

AL: Inquired how minutes are produced in an effort to determine what level of discussion detail is to be included in the minutes. SR: Stated that in the future as an action item are acted on during the meeting staff would capture the motion and action only and would not transcribe all Committee or public comment to avoid confusion or misinterpretation. Staff will be upgrading audio recording equipment to create an accessible audio archive of the meeting. TH: Asked what was missing from the Minutes. AL: Discussion about Duboce Park regarding barriers and about

the size and types and how RPD makes its decision. RPD was to report back to DAC.

Motion to adopt Minutes of December 13, 2005 as presented with changes as amended above, was approved unanimously, and seconded.

3. General RPD Update

SR: Gave an update on the following issues:

Duboce Park DPA Plan Update: The plan went forward to RPC in January and it received unanimous approval. A condition was put on the Plan, that an agreement be obtained with a group--in this case Duboce Dog. RPD was able to successfully negotiate and execute an agreement prior to Commission action in January.

SR: Enforcement Policy Update: Item forwarded to Operations Committee at the January Meeting. The Operations Committee withheld passing it on to the full Commission and requested that we evaluate the current plan and prepare a more specific implementation plan that would identify resources necessary for implementation.

SR: Met with SFDOG staff to explore a range of issues such as basic education and potential recreation programming particularly in association with RPD's summer programs. RPD will be developing a new dog/pet component to recreational program offerings for presentation to the public in Fall 2006.

SR: Has been to over 60 sites to look at dog parks and non-dog parks and has seen a wide range of compliance with the rules. Level of compliance varies widely from site to site, time of day, day of the week and weather conditions. He indicated it was his impression that illegal off-leash use is wide-spread throughout the park system.

CF stated he received an email from a Supervisor from constituents concerned about the Professional Dog Walking businesses that drop off multiple dogs at park sites. What is the current status of adopting a law. SR would research the matter and report back to the Committee.

AL: Asked what DPA budget was this year. SR: There is no DPA budget this year. Most DPAs are premised on minimal cost involvement which includes signage, benches, dispensers which are covered under routine expenses. AL: Money is being taking from capital projects for DPAs that were never budgeted originally when Propositions A and C were passed. It should be separate money budgeted or fundraised separately. SR: Agree and will be proposing the creation of a line item in the RPD Capital Improvement Plan for system-wide DPA plan development.

4. System-wide Dog Play Area Strategy Overview.

SR: Presented a general outline for the development of a City-Wide Dog Facility Master Plan. The slide presentation included the following:

A. Dog Facility Master Plan
1. Planning
a. Guidelines
1. Property Inventory
2 Demographic Analysis Model
3. Service Area Standards
4. Spatial Distribution Model
5. Facility Typology
6. Management Typology
7. Site Suitability Criteria
8. Community Outreach Process
9. Capital Improvement Plan
2. Design
a. Standards
1. Design Elements
2. Functional Relationships
3. Site Layouts
4. Cost Model
3. Construction
a. Specifications
1. Construction Details
2. Technical Specifications
3. Materials Catalog
4. Management
a.Best Practices
1. Maintenance
2. Security
3. Safety
4. Evaluation
5. Financial
5. Programming
a.Plan
1. Program Activities
2. Volunteer Program
3. Partnership Program
4. Enforcement Program
5. Public Information Program
6. Administrative Program

SR: Discussed with DAC members reasoning for a system-wide DPA Master Plan. A lively discussion was held on many aspects of the plan, as well as reasoning for such a plan. A significant amount of materials have already been produced that can be reformatted to fit within the plan. SR will be working on a master plan outline over the next couple of weeks. There are presently no new requests for DPAs.

5. Committee Business:

TH: DAC will not be meeting monthly, but will meet as noted, still on second Tuesday of the month. SR will be working to develop the system-wide DPA Master Plan. The Timed-Use Working Group: Marybeth, Laurie and Keith, have yet to have their first meeting. At that point a DAC meeting will be convened to start that discussion. They will work with SR. SR stated he will work toward the creation process that would result in a bullet point report on status of work items which would be distributed in advance of normal meeting date and would also indicate whether there was the necessity for a meeting or not. The summary would be posted on the website.

6. Public Comment: None

7. Adjournment: The Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF MEETING

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2006
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

SF
R28.25
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3/14/06
cancelled

THE NEXT DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2006, 6:30 P.M. COUNTY FAIR BUILDING

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Recreation and Park

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF MEETING

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2006
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

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Cancelled

THE NEXT DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2006
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NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF MEETING

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2006
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

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Cancelled

THE NEXT DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2006 COUNTY FAIR BUILDING

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City and County of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF MEETING

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2006
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING
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July 11, 2006 - cancelled

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF MEETING

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2006
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA

THE NEXT DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2006,
AFTER THE VACATION SEASON OFFICIALLY ENDS

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Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2006
6:30 PM
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AGENDA

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1. Roll Call
2. Approval of February 7, 2006 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [5 minutes]
4. Timed Use Policy [30 minutes]
5. Dog Play Area Evaluations [20 minutes]
6. Committee Business [10 minutes]
7. Public comment. [20 minutes]
8. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2748

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San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

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October 10, 2006

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2006
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

AGENDA

- Roll Call
- Approval of February 7, 2006 Minutes
- General RPD update. (Discussion only) [40 minutes]
- Timed Use Policy (Discussion only) [60 minutes]
- Committee Business [5 minutes]
- Public comment. [15 minutes]
- Adjournment

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October 10, 2006

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, October 10, 2006, 6:30 p.m.
County Fair Building

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MINUTES

1. Roll Call:

Chair Tamar Hurwitz opened the meeting and took roll of the Committee.

She introduced newly appointed Dog Advisory Committee member Katy Wilcoxen, from Duboce Park Volunteers Group, who replaced Marybeth Wallace on the Committee.

DAC Members:

Present: Tamar Hurwitz, Chair, Department of the Environment
Laurie Kennedy, Vice-Chair, SF-SPCA
Carl Friedman, Animal Care and Control Department
Sgt. William Herndon, SFPD Dog Investigations Units
Arnold Levine, EQUP
Mark Heath, California Native Plant Society
Bill Carlin, SFDOG
Katy Wilcoxen, Duboce Park Volunteers

Absent: Jill Chase, San Francisco Veterinary Medical Association
Elizabeth Murdock, Golden Gate Audubon Society
Andrea Brooks, P.A.W.S.

Recreation and Park Staff (RPD):

Present: Scott Reese, Superintendent of Neighborhood Services
Bob Palacio, RPD Dog Advisory Committee Liaison

2. Approval of Minutes of February 7, 2006.

Due to lack of a quorum of Dog Advisory Committee at the September 12, 2006 meeting there are no meeting minutes. All official business was referred to the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting of October 10, 2006. Audience members present asked questions regarding Timed Use and other dog related issues of RPD staff and DAC member

Motion to adopt Minutes of February 7, 2006, as presented, was unanimously approved and seconded.

3. General Recreation and Parks Department Update

Scott Reese presented an update on following issues:

- Walter Haas Playground: Undergoing surface related renovation. Staff will be applying a Polypave binder to decomposed granite DPA surface. The surface experienced significant erosion last winter and now must be recompacted and rebound. New binder will be applied in varied concentrations to get surface continuity needed. Material should correct dust and erosion problems. Closure of site will be required for a day or two, depending on how material cures.

- New Neighborhood Services Area Manager, Bob Palacio, will provide support for DAC and RPD Planning Staff on dog related issues. New Planning Division Staff in the process of being hired after vacancies since December 2005. Planning Staff will reassume responsibilities for System-wide DPA planning. Estimate an eight month process. There will be a moratorium on new DPA's until System-Wide Planning completed.

- Duboce DPA funding approved by Board of Supervisors in late September. An appropriation has now been set-up, and staff has been assigned to the project and has moved forward from approved concept into preliminary design development phase. $130,000 approved by Board of Supervisors in July. A preliminary meeting was held with new project manager last week.

- Status of MOU's: Upper Noe MOU has been drafted. Need to check status of Eureka Valley and Walter Haas DPAs as they were in place prior to his arrival. Using Upper Noe DPA model for Duboce Park site. Duboce Park MOU was approved in December, 2005, as a condition of DPA approval by Commission in January, 2006.

- Briefly discussed Timed-Use / Multi-Use issues researched on internet; and enforcement issues regarding people running dogs off leash at times that are not under Timed Use. Discussed the difference between permanent Dog Play Areas and Timed Use Areas which function on a permit basis.

Mr. Reese indicated that the Intent of this DAC Meeting was not to present a draft policy but to present a report on research completed to date and to take input from DAC and public before preceding with recommended modifications to the Dog Policy to include possible provisions for Timed Use.

Bob Palacio stated that permit fees received go back to General Fund. Permit/rental fees cannot be used for maintenance in any way. Any maintenance done would be out of existing funds that were budgeted for that fiscal year. RPD can hold performance bonds/security deposit from rental fees for damages to turf that may have occurred.

Mr. Palacio reported that according to research he has completed on agencies across the country with Timed Use areas, the preferred alternative is permanently designated DPA's. However, Timed-Use may be a viable alternative when proper provisions for the planning, design, construction and management of the Timed Use area are present.

4. Timed Use Policy Presentation

Mr. Reese delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Report Related to Timed Use for Off-Leash Areas". A copy of the presentation will be posted on the Departmental website. The presentation included the following topical areas:

- Recommendation:
  - Hear a presentation
  - Take public comment
  - Discuss a proposal to explore the potential establishment of timed-use off-leash dog play areas in City parks
- General Process
- Background Research
- General Findings
- Timed Use Defined
- Timed Use Off Leash – Rationale
- Potential Negative Impacts
- Identifying Potential Timed Use Areas
- Scheduling Patterns
- Planning/Design Considerations
- Enforcement

- Management
- Funding
- Evaluation
- Final Considerations
- Recommendations: DAC receives report and takes public comment and may take one of the following actions:
  - Recommends Recreation and Park Commission give no further consideration of creation of a timed use policy.
  - Decides to proceed with committee work related to the development of a specific timed use off-leash area policy proposal for consideration by the DAC and possible recommendation to the Recreation and Park Commission.

General discussion followed the presentation. The following comments were taken from that discussion.

Bill Carlin: Timed-Use Working Group Members Laurie Kennedy, Arnold Levine and Bill Carlin completed a lot of work investigating issue. Did a wonderful job. This proposal has gone through many configurations. This work is just a beginning.

Mark Heath: Indicated the report there is not much discussion regarding impacts to plants and parklands.

Scott Reese responded that Colorado cities seem very sensitive to those issues. Report references of concern for natural areas and that location of DPAs and Timed Use areas should be sensitive with regard to proximity to natural areas, undeveloped park land and open space properties.

Tamar Hurwitz asked if it would be possible if DAC chose to include wording that Timed-Use Policy would actually exclude any overlap with natural habitat areas.

Scott Reese responded yes a policy could be drafted to precluded potential conflicts with natural areas and open space. Underdeveloped parkland could be a good interim use.

Arnold Levine requested some examples of cities with Timed Use areas and the ratio of DPAs to Timed Use areas.

Bob Palacio will make inquiries to attempt to establish a ratio of DPAs to Timed Use areas and report back.

Arnold Levine requested information about dog bites incidents and public health issues related to Timed Use areas to be addressed in the report.

Scott Reese responded that research to date shows that police reports seem to be only public record related to dog bites. There are no records of harassment by dogs other than intermittent phone calls received by RPD. No agency or organization appears responsible for collecting data related to dog related incidents and most incidents probably take place without report.

Sgt. William Herndon responded that the Dog Investigation Unit investigates all reports received by SFPD of dog incidents/bites. Police Reports initiate an investigation, and records of aggressive/vicious dog incidents are kept of all investigations.

Carl Friedman indicated that RPD rescinded funding from Animal Care and Control for Animal Control Officers to cite off leash violations, so enforcement of leash laws is not a departmental priority.

Scott Reese responded that it was his understanding that RPD rescinded the funding at ACC request because they were not able to commit the necessary personnel resources to the enforcement program due to other priorities.

In response to question regarding the potential location of Timed Use areas within parks, Scott Reese stated that any area of any park that doesn't have athletic field/children's recreational activities or natural areas attached could potentially support Timed-Use. He cited the example of closing Walter Haas DPA during renovation and the likelihood that a Timed-Use area would be created in the park for specific time period while the DPA was being restored. The area designated for interim Timed Use would be restored and revert to park use upon completion of restoration.

5. Public Comments:

Audible Public Comments

- Sunnyside Playground – It's about sharing resources, gathering friends and community, safety. Use park regardless of weather. Urge consideration of Timed Use.
- Sunnyside: Meet more diverse group; lots of families with kids and dogs. Advocate for Timed Use.

- Distressed that RPD brought Timed Use issue to DAC without more analysis done regarding Enforcement issues. Needs specific factual information geared to San Francisco parks. City Planning Department, City Attorney's Office and more research needed to change Dog Policy. Current Health Codes do not allow for Timed Use.

- Speaker would like Trial Timed Use in some parks and see if it could work. Need alternatives. With greening of Bay, protection of more Natural Areas, allocation of more park space for DPAs will probably not happen.
- Golden Gate Audubon representative wanted to go on record. She thought some time ago that Timed Use Issue was to be tabled until studies and research on wildlife and other environmental issues of RPD parks were done. Echo of need for enforcement to be in place prior to establishment of Timed Use.
- In favor of Timed Use at Sunnyside Park, strong sense of community. Feel park is for everyone, don't exclude dog use.
- Wants to see how many DPAs other cities have compared to San Francisco, square footage, square miles. City has established DPAs and now dog owners looking to use more park resources for dog use. Against Timed Use until further evaluation occurs.
- Sunnyside dog users keep park occupied, keeps drug/gang activities away, keeps park safer in mornings and evenings. Community monitoring would stop abuse and misbehavior of illegal users. Timed use is a good use of valuable neighborhood park.
- Timed Use should be an option.
- Handicapped dog owners need facility close to homes. Timed Use would be good for her small dog that needs socializing, Sunnyside Park a good area for that.
- Wanted to thank Working Group for its hard work/research devoted to a difficult issue. In support of Timed Use.
- In favor of multi-use of park facilities.
- Soccer/baseball and unleashed dogs disgusting. Squeezing people between activities. No emergency .This Timed Use concept is completely unnecessary. Not every park can accommodate every activity.
- Has raised daughters at Sunnyside Playground, and now walking there with her dogs has met more neighbors in the last 1-1/2 years than in all her years in area. Would like Timed Use at Sunnyside Park.
- Enforcement. Worried irresponsible dog owners would cause problems with those that obey the rules. Accountability issues.
- Uses lots of parks with his dog, would like Timed Use.
- Sunnyside park timed use trial would be great.
- Resident of Potrero Hill/DogPatch area. Several issues of concern. Places that historically have been off-leash dog areas. DPAs by community groups that no longer exist
- Parks should be used for multiple users. For Timed Use.
- Gyms are example of mixed use but rollerblading or activities that would ruin the gym floor are not allowed. With athletic fields – they are shared with soccer/baseball because it is compatible use. If dogs allowed on fields leave feces, urine, dig holes, destroy grass, it will no longer be useable by rest of community. It is simply not compatible. Has been chased out of tennis courts by dogs whose owners do not control their dogs. Enforcement procedures needed before Timed-Use.
- Dog owner and soccer player. Love to share parks with those with permits, some without. Work together. Doesn't see a problem. Timed-Use a good solution.
- Dog owners working out problems together, for Timed Use

Tamar Hurwitz stated that the public comments were very much appreciated.

Laurie Kennedy indicated that from a behavioral standpoint both on-leash dogs and off -leash dogs present different and unique problems.

Tamar Hurwitz recommended that perhaps the Timed Use proposal include a provision to permit disabled people to allow their dog off leash in specified parks near their residence.

Mark Heath indicated he didn't believe the Timed Use discussion should proceed without putting it in context with enforcement. It is a great idea if there is an enforcement policy and enforcement resources. He indicated he would like to see a well funded Animal Care and Control Department that was involved in the process.

Carl Friedman indicated that one of the most frequent complaints received by ACC of dogs in parks is regarding Professional Dog Walkers who come to the park and release dogs into the park and overwhelm the area. RPD needs to do further research and take action on the Professional Dog Walkers issue.

Scott Reese indicated that the report presented was to demonstrate to the DAC the current state-of-the-art in Timed-Use concepts. It was not the intent to produce a policy before obtaining input from the public and DAC. He estimated it would take an additional two to three DAC meetings to complete the process and move a recommendation to Recreation and Park Commission. Several additional meetings would be required for Commission committee and full Commission work.

Scott Reese responded to the public comment: Have a number of questions that will be summarized and further researched including:

- Legal questions regarding timed use.
- Poll cities to provide more detailed information.
- Check into incidences of diseases and public health issues.
- Check New York hours to verify.

In terms of scientific study, haven't seen anything to indicate that RPD has committed to a scientific study related to the issue. A scientific study would be very costly and time consuming and no funding has been set aside for this purpose. Studies have been done by the Park Service and Forest Service and others concerned with natural areas. Staff will look into that information.

The next step is to draft revisions to the Dog Policy to incorporate Time-Use for DAC review. Staff will try to complete that work by next meeting. Options are revisions to

the body of the Dog Policy or a separate Amendment to the Dog Policy. Wanted public input as part of the process prior to bringing back to DAC for further action.

Tamar Hurwitz reiterated for DAC the reason DAC is considering the Timed Use matter is that the DAC charter indicates that the DAC will report to RPD with a recommendation on Timed Use for Parks. RPD staff with input from DAC will prepare and deliver a report to Recreation and Park Commission. Once a recommendation is completed DAC can vote to recommend to endorse or reject the concept of Timed Use to the Commission.

Laurie Kennedy indicated she is advocating providing a pilot program to collect data and information regarding cost, enforcement strategies and partnerships before the concept is adopted fully into the Dog Policy.

Arnold Levine requested information regarding implementation budget and the need for an environmental impact report to implement Timed Use.

Scott Reese indicated that based upon previous staff work, no environmental impact report would be necessary to adopt Timed Use strategies.

Carl Friedman indicated there is no possibility of enforcement of current leash laws and people exercising their dogs off leash in City parks violating the law. DAC is charged with reporting back to Recreation and Park Commission on a Timed-Use Policy. Also charged with promoting community relations and assisting in developing and distributing educational information. Creating a Timed-Use policy would decriminalize citizens who are now breaking the law, until there are sufficient resources for enforcement. He indicated that DAC should work to promote good citizenship, promote responsible dog owners and create a Timed-Use Policy to keep people from breaking the law.

Tamar Hurwitz will update the information received into the report and hopefully bring it back to the next DAC meeting.

6. Committee Business

Tamar Hurwtiz: Next DAC Meeting will be held November 14, 2006. Propose consideration of having a meeting on December 12, to continue Timed Use discussion before year ends, so hopefully take action in December. Will announce at November 14 meeting.

7. Adjournment

A Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

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November 14, 2006

NOTICE OF MEETING
RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2006
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of October 10, 2006 Minutes
3. General RPD update. (Discussion only) [15 minutes]
4. Dog Play Area Evaluation Form Draft (Discussion only) [25 minutes]
5. Timed Use Policy (Discussion only) [60 minutes]
6. Committee Business [10minutes]
6.1. Reappointment of DAC Members
6.2. Election of Vice Chair
6.3. January Meeting Date
7. Public comment. [10 minutes]
8. Adjournment

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1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102-4689, Office: (415) 554-7724, (FAX):
(415) 554-7854, (E-mail): Donna_Hall@ci.sf.ca.us
All staff background information for items listed on this agenda are located at McLaren Lodge Annex,
501 Stanyan Street, Office of the Planning Division.

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November 14, 2006

DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 14, 2006, 6:30 p.m.
County Fair Building

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MINUTES

1. Roll Call:

DAC Members:

Present: Tamar Hurwitz, Chair, Department of the Environment
Laurie Kennedy, Vice-Chair, SF-SPCA
Carl Friedman, Animal Care and Control Department
Arnold Levine, EQUP
Mark Heath, California Native Plant Society
Bill Carlin, SFDOG
Katy Wilcoxen, Duboce Park Volunteers
Andrea Brooks, P.A.W.S.

Absent: Jill Chase, San Francisco Veterinary Medical Association
Sgt. William Herndon, SFPD Dog Investigation Unit
Elizabeth Murdock, Golden Gate Audubon Society

Recreation and Park Staff (RPD)

Present: Scott Reese, Superintendent of Neighborhood Services
Bob Palacio, RPD Dog Advisory Committee Liaison

2. Approval of Minutes of October 10, 2006.

Motion to adopt Minutes of October 10, 2006, as presented, was unanimously approved and seconded.

3. General Recreation and Park Department Update:

Scott Reese presented an update on the following matters:

- Timed Use: RPD has received correspondence on the Timed-Use issue. Staff will be compiling that information, as well as additional correspondence received after tonight's meeting, and will forward it to DAC members.

- RPD Planning Division: Staff is looking forward to placement of new RPD Planning Division staff to assist with developing the DPA system-wide planning. Planner interviews have been completed and offers have been tendered. It is hoped Planning staff will be available to be introduced to DAC at the next meeting.

4. Dog Play Area Evaluation Form Draft

Scott Reese distributed an early draft of a DPA Evaluation Sheet for Dog Play Areas Form produced by RPD Planning Staff approximately one year ago. Reese asked for comments, feedback and/or additional information from DAC members about what should be included on the form as basis for revising the form prior to consideration by the DAC at the next meeting.

New member Katy Wilcoxen asked what the necessity is for evaluation of DPA's. Mr. Reese indicated that the Dog Policy requires that DPA's be evaluated once a year in the Fall. He said the Department currently evaluates the condition of DPA's twice annually within the context of the ongoing park maintenance assessments, however this evaluation will be more detailed and incorporated aspects relating to DPA MOU's with DPA sponsor groups not covered by the standard park maintenance assessment.

These evaluations would be used as the basis to determine the DPA condition, continued need for the DPA, support group compliance with MOU provisions and potential maintenance, management and capital improvements needed to the DPA. He added that this kind of information will help develop a database to assist staff with an assessment on how the DPA concept is functioning system-wide as well as DPA specific information.

Laurie Kennedy recommended changes in language and format related to signage, entrances/gates, level of use and safety. She also suggested the form should indicate the time of day and length of visit of the evaluator. She asked that the question related to obedience to leash laws be clarified to include both compliance within the Park and the DPA. She also recommended that provision be made to identify who was completing the survey.

A question was asked regarding the timing of the evaluation. In response Scott Reese stated that the program calls for DPA evaluations in November/December. Staff is considering completing a survey in late spring or early summer as well along with other park and playground evaluations.

Scott Reese stated staff continue to research into DPA evaluations as they address the DPA's/Timed Use matter. He has found that some cities use Timed Use as a means to evaluate the viability of a DPA before converting a Timed Use area to a permanent DPA. Surveys are used as a means to query the public about the effectiveness of these areas.

A question was asked as to who would be reviewing these evaluations. Scott Reese responded RPD maintenance and programming staff, members of DAC, members of

organizations with whom the Department has MOU's, the Commission and the general public. He indicated that survey results would likely be posted on RPD website and the survey itself would be posted so people could download and complete their own surveys and send us the information.

Arnold Levine asked how long before the form would be ready and the first evaluations completed. Bob Palacio responded that it was our intent to take comments from tonight's meeting and return to the next meeting with a final draft for DAC approval. Mr. Reese further commented that once format is approved staff will test it out on 20% of DPA's to determine its functionality, then modify it, and complete the remainder of the DPA's with the final form. After the functionality of the form is established staff will devise the mechanics of tabulating and archiving data and begin to generate reports to analyze the data so that staff and the DAC can better understand DPA's.

Laurie Kennedy commented that it would be a good idea to evaluate parks and observe various cultures in parks and see how they interact. She expressed concern that availability of surveys could be used by some to skew an understanding of how a DPA is functioning.

Scott Reese indicated that RPD should be able to mitigate this concern as staff will be completing evaluations, as will DAC members and members such as Neighborhood Parks Council, and various friends of parks groups. Surveys that come from the public will be identified separately.

Arnold Levine asked how questions related to DPA MOU's would be addressed if not all DPA's had MOU's with support groups. Scott Reese stated RPD staff has an obligation to complete DPA evaluations according to the Dog Policy. Because of the manner in which the first group of DPA's was approved en masse, there are no support groups or MOU's to evaluate. It will be important in the future to find sponsors. New DPA's have been approved conditionally on the basis that a sponsor exists.

5. Committee Business

Election of Officers for New Year:
5.1. Reappointment of DAC Members: Tamar Hurwitz will continue as Chair of DAC.
5.2. Election of Vice Chair: Laurie Kennedy will continue as Vice-Chair of DAC.

Motion was made and unanimously seconded.

5.3. January Meeting Date. There will be no December Meeting of DAC as was previously discussed. The next DAC Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 16, 2007.

6. Timed Use Policy Discussion

Scott Reese stated that staff has been advised by the City Attorney's Office the correct way to address Timed-Use would be to insert into the appropriate sections related to the Timed Use concept into the current Dog Policy. The City Attorney and Planning Division would like to see it prior to final approval, to make sure that what is proposed will comport with CEQA, the Health Code and the Park Code. The recommendation of the DAC would be reviewed by the Operations Committee of the Recreation and Parks Commission and then by the Commission itself Staff believes there are only five to seven major insertions necessary within the Dog Policy to address the timed use issue because information related to the criteria for establishing DPA's are applicable to both permanent and Timed Use approaches.

Scott Reese distributed a memorandum with responses to the "Questions on Timed-Use Policy Report", which was submitted to him by new DAC Board Member, Katy Wilcoxen. He felt answers to the questions they would assist DAC in their deliberations and help fine-tuning of a Timed-Use concept. Mr. Reese read each question and response. There was extensive discussion. Some highlights of that discussion are incorporated below:

CEQA review will be required for all proposed DPA's whether permanent or Timed Use. The Planning Division conducts the CEQA reviews. Most DPA CEQA reviews are done administratively due to the low level nature of the improvements and environmental impact.

In response to questions of enforcement of the Time Use area, Scott Reese indicated that the basis for enforcement is the Park Code and Health Code. Enforcement is currently the responsibility of Park Patrol, Animal Care & Control, and SFPD. SFPD is very responsive regarding vicious dog complaints, but off-leash enforcement is considered a low priority. Mr. Reese indicated the RPD does not have resources necessary to do enforcement at the level they would like and therefore must depend on peer enforcement. Peer enforcement is a requirement of adoption of any MOU with a support organization. This process seems to be working well in other cities. Enforcement is an ongoing struggle in many areas of RPD's Park Code. The Department is actively working to increase Park Patrol funding in budget.

The Public addressed members of DAC and RPD staff and discussed issues as both proponents and opponents to proposed Timed Use concept. (Overall majority of those present seemed to be proponents of Timed Use, or wanted a trial period to test the concept).

Tamar Hurwitz asked about how Pilot Project for Timed Use would work.

Scott Reese responded that staff would follow the process set out in the Dog Policy to establish a DPA as a Timed Use area. Once the standards for establishing a timed use area are agreed to staff would evaluate sites that comports with the standards. Staff would set up a rigid evaluation process with straight-forward criteria to evaluate each proposed site. He indicated RPD frequently does pilot projects. In a recently studied case in Denver, the city used Timed Use as a means to validate the need and constraints for the development of a permanent DPA. This might be a methodology for RPD to use in the establishment of future permanent DPA's.

Tamar Hurwitz asked how realistic it was that after having a six month trial period you would close a site if it wasn't working.

Scott Reese acknowledged that it is sometimes difficult to terminate a use once established but that this technique is used by some park and recreation departments currently as one approach to facility planning and development. Departments will create a prototype or trial period, examine the results of the test and proceed accordingly to implement the concept with mitigations or terminate the use as incompatible.

Arnold Levine asked for clarification as to which parks are under consideration for Timed Use He said the only ones he has heard discussed are Esprit Park, Sunnyside Playground, and Bernal Heights. Mr. Reese responded that no parks are under consideration by the Department currently because the concept has not been approved. He indicated that the DAC has received public comment regarding the potential for the application of Timed Use concept at Esprit Park, Sunnyside Playground, and Bernal Heights.

Tamar Hurwitz commented that she believes that system-wide planning of DPA's will help to clarify the best opportunities for appropriately locating DPA's of all types citywide. She further stated that it is her understanding that once a system-wide plan is in place the DAC would be sunset and the RPD staff and Commission would administer the process from that point forward. Mr. Reese confirmed this understanding. The Recreation and Park Commission would then assume that responsibility as they do for other kinds of master planning, and will use the system-wide plan as the tool to guide their decision making or hear proposals that come forward.

Tamar Hurwitz clarified that what is being stated is that Timed Use proposals from the DAC would go to Recreation and Park Commission. Scott Reese agreed.

Tamar Hurwitz thanked Katy Wilcoxen for her list of questions regarding Timed Use as they were very helpful to guiding the discussion. The next discussion of Timed Use will be in January, 2007.

Scott Reese stated that at that point DAC would consider inclusion of the concept as a revision to the current DPA Policy. The revisions would incorporate what RPD staff and DAC believe would be modifications necessary to implement. Those recommended items would be in the context of the report already received.

Tamar Hurwitz indicated that it seemed the process would require more DAC discussion for January then, hopefully, DAC action in February. She stated that the Dog Policy is a vehicle for which to propose a Timed-Use concept, and what the DAC would be voting on is whether to propose a Timed-Use concept or not. If a Time Use concept is proposed it will be done as part of the Dog Policy.

Carl Friedman clarified that what the DAC would be voting on is a proposal to be advanced to Recreation and Park Commission. One of DAC's responsibilities is that it has been charged by the Commission to bring to the Commission a proposal for a Timed-Use concept. So the DAC would be voting on whether or not to recommend Timed Use as a viable concept to the Commission, and the Commission would decide whether or not the concept would be incorporated into the Dog Policy.

Tamar Hurwitz agreed that DAC will evaluate what comes forward from staff and will then make a recommendation in favor or not in favor of the concept as presented. The Commission will then consider the DAC's recommendation and provide direction to staff.

The discussion ended at 8:25p.m.

7. Public Comment

Members of the public made final comments on Timed-Use, land use issues and enforcement and/or lack of enforcement of leash law issue.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2007
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way

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1. Roll Call
2. Approval of November 14, 2006 Minutes
3. General RPD Update. (Discussion only) [15 minutes]
4. Dog Play Area Evaluation Form (Action Item) [25 minutes]
5. Timed Use Policy (Discussion only) [60 minutes]
6. Committee Business [5 minutes]
7. Public Comment. [15 minutes]
8. Adjournment

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Note: The Dog Play Area Evaluation Form and Draft Timed Use Concept Report will be made available on Recreation and Park Department's website at http/www.parks.sfgov.org./dog policy.

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2748

McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898

FAX: (415) 221-8034
Phone: (415) 831-2700

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City and County of San Francisco

Recreation and Park Department

NOTICE OF MEETING

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DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2007
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3. General RPD Update. (Discussion only) [25 minutes]
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February 13, 2007

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, February 13, 2007, 6:30 p.m.
County Fair Building
Minutes

1. Roll Call:
DAC Members:
Present: Tamar Hurwitz, Chair, Department of the Environment
Laurie Kennedy, Co-Chair, SF-SPCA
Carl Friedman, Animal Care and Control Department
Mark Heath, California Native Plant Society
Bill Carlin, SFDOG
Arnold Levine, EQUP
Andrea Brooks, P.A.W.S.
Katy Wilcoxen, Duboce Park Volunteers
Absent: Sgt. William Herndon, SFPD-Dog Investigations Unit
Jill Chase, San Francisco Veterinary Medical Association
Elizabeth Murdock, Golden Gate Audubon Society
Recreation and Park (RPD)
Present: Scott Reese, Superintendent of Neighborhood Services
Bob Palacio, RPD Dog Advisory Committee Liaison

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2. Approval of Minutes of January 16, 2007.
Motion to approve Minutes of January 16, 2007, was unanimously approved and seconded.

3. General Recreation and Park Department Update.
Sunsetting of DAC: Tamar Hurwitz, Chair of the Dog Advisory Committee, introduced to DAC members a letter from Yomi Agunbiade, General Manager of the Recreation and Park Department, which was a request to consider Sunset of the Dog Advisory Committee. She had a discussion with Yomi last week based on input she had received from DAC members and the community, and it seemed like a good time to discuss Sunsetting DAC.
Scott Reese as a result of DAC Meeting held in January, was asked to research the question of Sunsetting DAC. The first thing he found was that there was no time limit

set for DAC. It appears from a staff viewpoint that the work of DAC has been completed. DPA related work has not yet been completed. RPD staff now has responsibility to carry on work, which lies primarily in three areas: 1: Creating a strategy to obtain MOU's for each one of the DPAs that exist or were established prior to September, 2005. 2: Consider potential proposals that come forward in the future related to DPAs. DAC had previously agreed on a moratorium on approvals for new DPAs until the System-Wide Master Plan was completed. 3: Related to updating status of Planning Division's staffing issue.
Trying to get System-Wide Master Plan project scheduled on their Work Plan, but it doesn't appear that they will be able to get to work on it for at least six months. The way we proposed to go forward was to have Planning Division staff take responsibility for implementation of System-Wide Master Plan which will be heard by Commission. At this point it's open to discussion with DAC as to what the group felt should happen next.
Laurie Kennedy and Andrea Brooks agreed it was time to Sunset and that the major objectives of DAC have been completed with the completion of the Timed-Use issue. A lot of volunteer time had been put in by DAC members over the years.
Carl Friedman also agreed that is was time to Sunset. He stated that over a year ago a Recreation and Park Commission Member thought that DAC should Sunset, and she said at that time when the Commission approved the Dog Policy originally it was not intended that DAC exist indefinitely.
Mark Heath felt that if a lot of the upcoming issues would not be addressed for six to nine months, then there should be a recess of DAC during that period before a final check-in before totally dissolving the group.
Bill Carlin asked about what the procedure would be to Sunset DAC.
Tamar replied procedure would be addressed after conversation with DAC members concluded.
Carl Friedman felt there was nothing that precluded the RPD General Manager calling back the DAC with issues they think worthwhile in the future.
Tamar understood Carl to mean that currently DAC could be resuscitated in nine months and be asked to join back up and meet.
Arnold Levine asked after Sunsetting DAC how would the public have a voice.
Scott felt the public would have a more direct voice and would go directly through the Commission Committee structure and the Recreation and Park Commission as a whole. DAC performed a valuable function in hearing testimony, vetting out and proposing ideas that have then worked their way up through to the Commission, but DAC is basically advisory and all official actions are done by the Commission through their Committee process. Expect that any actions such as a System-Wide Master Plan would have to be approved by RPD Commission. Any proposals for new DPAs would be handled as they were in the past. They would go through Commission for final approval. This procedure would be followed for approval of MOUs for DPAs, as well as approval for the System-Wide Master Plan. Since the System-Wide Master Plan would probably have CEQA consequences, a full set of hearings associated with that plan would be conducted in the same manner as most park master plans. With respect to MOUs for DPAs, those would be conducted in public at meetings with bonafide

organizations that will be seeking to enter into partnerships. The present MOUs would be used as a template for all future DPAs. Hearings related to DPAs would be a very open process, conducted in public before Commission.

Tamar agreed with Katy Wilcoxen and stated she had been Chair for three years and had seen a change in the work DAC was doing and with the vote on Timed-Use concluded that was the last big thing that needed to be checked off its to-do list. Everyone was excited by the System-Wide Master plan presented a year ago. Now it is time to implement it to help replace what DAC has been doing.
Tamar in response to question from Bill Carlin on the process to Sunset. One of the thoughts was to have a Special Meeting in about two weeks and have as an Action Item to actually take a vote on whether to Sunset DAC. During Item #6 Committee Business a date will be selected for a Special Meeting and proceed from there.
Scott Reese wished to clarify that because DAC was established by Recreation and Park Commission, DAC would be recommending to the Commission the Sunsetting of DAC.
Recycling Dog Waste Proposal: Scott Reese reported that he received a Grant Proposal from an individual working in conjunction with Environmental Services, DPW and Nor-Cal Scavengers who wanted to study ways to recycle dog waste. Neighborhood Parks Council would be involved in it as the fiscal agent if the grant was selected.
CEQA Approval: Scott Reese in response to question from Arnold Levine who was not present at last meeting regarding CEQA approval stated that City Planning Department on record following review of their documents on file in their office that the process was completed satisfactorily. Based on information provided by City Planning Department, all DPAs sites managed by RPD to date had received CEQA review, and received an exemption or approval.
During Public Comment, in response to question following Sunset of DAC, Scott Reese stated that to clarify issue, the Dog Policy is the predominant document we refer to, and it will need to be made clear on the RPD Web Page. There are probably other housekeeping matters that need to be addressed during this transition period. Any requests for a new DPA would go to Commission for approval and be acted upon in that way. All Brown Act Rules would be in effect.

4. Dog Play Area Evaluation Form:
Scott Reese reviewed some of the changes requested at the last meeting which have been incorporated. This form will be used in a number of different venues such as RPD staff, Commission, DAC members, DPA users and neighbors. The evaluation process set out in the Dog Policy states that all those groups could potentially be involved in evaluation of DPAs. The form has been constructed to be used by those different types of constituent groups. He discussed some of the changes made starting at the top of the form and went through it. It is now a three page form. There is more space at the end of the form for general observations. The intent of the three page form would be to be able to mail out the form using the remaining blank page to create the mailer. Make it so it can be refolded and mailed back to us.

In response to question from DAC member, Tamar felt we could vote on it tonight recognizing that those changes will be made, and that can be made a part of the motion if someone wished to do so.
Laurie Kennedy discussed confusion with the Park On-Leash and Park Off Leash. Tamar suggested that it be clarified by using parenthesis that state on the right side of the boxes in small type (not in DPA).
Scott stated that it is intended this form be sent to neighbors within a certain distance. Not many DPAs are located near residences, so it is difficult to survey neighbors directly. In cases where the DPA is nearby we would use the same form and encourage them with a cover letter to respond and add additional comments. Think it appropriate for use by dog users because we are looking at all these elements that would be important to them and other park users.
Tamar responded maybe there is a space for that under Other Comments so that would be a place where those kinds of observations and comments could be provided from that position group. Katy replied if added under Other Comments it made it seem like it was optional when doing an evaluation it really matters how the DPA worked in context of the whole park.
Scott replied when staff would do these user surveys she was correct that it is clearly set out in the Dog Policy that we are going to be surveying users and non-users of DPAs. We are assuming we are going to have to be out on-site with staff doing that survey using this instrument to collect that information. Staff would be cueing people through the process and instigating that kind of response.
In response to Katy, Tamar stated when the form is handed out they should suggest the Comment Box be used to address things that are not specifically asked here that are a big concern to you. Highlight the fact that there is space in Other Comments and we really want to know what you think, even if it is not outlined in the question.
Arnold Levine brought up under Surface Drainage (80% of DPA is free of standing water two days after rain or two hours after irrigation.) Scott replied for the most part there will be non-professionals doing these evaluations. Best response is that this is consistent with the standard currently used for drainage in Prop. C Maintenance Standards. That is the legally adopted standard RPD is currently using during Park Evaluations. Understood trouble you were pointing out. The question regarding rain is just so we know the difference between when it might be rain or it might be irrigation issue.
In response to Arnold regarding cost of the process. Scott replied that RPD is required to do this once to begin the process and then every three years. That is not a very substantial cost when we are talking about 26 areas. We will do it four times a year during Prop C Park Inspections, and once a year RPD staff will go out and do this Dog Evaluation Area survey. When staff does survey they will also engage the public at same time and do public part of the survey. Don't know what the cost will be. We just have a responsibility to do this and follow through. Understand his concern for cost and staff time. That is why we need to make the information we get valuable to us in terms of managing this. No one has put a dollar figure on it, but the public probably agrees that it is money well spent.

Approximately 10 people spoke under Public Comment regarding use of Dog Play Area Evaluation Form to evaluate park sites.
Carl Friedman felt RPD did a wonderful job on the Dog Evaluation Area form. Believed once the form used a couple of times we will realize some things were left out and need to be changed.

He felt it was a great start. If DAC needs to approve this form as an Action Item, he would like to make a motion to approve the form with the changes that were made tonight, with understanding that it most likely will be changed in the future. Motion introduced by Carl Friedman and seconded by a vote of : 7 Yes, 1 No.
Scott stated that we will make some of the content changes suggested by DAC members and some of the suggested edit ideas brought forward during Public Comment were good.
Scott also addressed some concerns brought up by Katy Wilcoxen regarding bigger picture not being captured concerning impacts of DPA and how it is working. Operations Division of RPD trying to work closer with Planning Group and Capital Design Group to devise better DPAs as we move forward. One of the things the System-Wide Plan provided was plans and specifications for individual improvements within each of these areas, that will be continuously updated. Input would come from Operations Division as to how these areas are functioning. There are some generalized rules. One thing surveys do for us, they focus our attention. Working with Neighborhood Parks Council, who have a process by which you can input data about a park, including a DPA as well. We look at that information about DPAs and also get a great deal of information from Park Scan which we use as well.

5. Timed Use Policy
Tamar Hurwitz introduced some changes that were made to Draft Dog Policy regarding Timed-Use from input taken last month.
Scott Reese went through document highlighting changes and stopped to clarify elements. There was a concern regarding proper term to use caregivers/owner/guardian and noticed that prior to that comment the DPA document used various terms and at some point when we update this we need to bring all those terms into conformance.
Katy Wilcoxen asked about issue in Report on Timed Use that has a statement that says that "Timed-Use was a viable management option when proper conditions planning, combined with enforcement are present" She felt those conditions were not present. Enforcement issue.
Laurie Kennedy felt what DAC was doing here has more to do with looking at whether or not Timed-Use could potentially be considered by Commission when they are analyzing proposals that come to them. If they take a look at what things are needed and come to conclusion that at any given park or across all the parks, if certain conditions are not complimentary for having successful Timed-Use, then that would be the job of the Commission to put that into consideration when they are considering Proposals for Timed-Use.

It is not the job of DAC to say that the whole entire park system is in shambles so therefore we can't put this on the table. They are still going to evaluate each park, what it has, what it doesn't have, what the community wants, what the community situation is, and will decide based on all those variables whether or not Timed-Use was something to consider.

Katy stated DAC was being asked to vote on whether Timed-Use was an option as a tool that could be used. The case needs to be made as to whether or not it's a viable option. There were still many unanswered questions.

Scott replied he would be happy to discuss further her concerns. Don't have any standards as explicit as this for any other improvement that really helps us to make a decision with this many guidelines to assist us in making a decision about the planning, design, management, operation as we have right here. We will learn and make adjustments as we go. Scott felt he was very inclusive to say all the different elements that are involved in planning one of these Timed-Use areas. Based on what we have seen in other City's and organizations, RPD staff will be able to successful implement this Timed-Use Policy.

Arnold Levine had concerns and questions as far as safety and health issues with dog feces and other issues with shared space. There is no way to evaluate what has been shown to us with any real information.

Mark Heath reiterated the long list of things that we could consider in this very complex subject, but the one single thing that stands out to him that hasn't been considered and hasn't seen any demonstration to this Committee was the issue of enforcement of timed-use. There are no current plans for enforcing existing leash laws as they are. Don't see how it could work at all without enforcement plan.

Scott felt he addressed Enforcement questions when he replied to the 20 Questions earlier. He seemed to recall some of the key points. What we are proposing is that all DPAs will have an MOU. The MOU is with a Partner Organization, which shares any encroachment responsibility. If it is deemed that the DPA is not being used appropriately, the policy says that the permit can be withdrawn. It would be far easier than a permanent DPA because it can be stopped immediately. We have the ability for staff to do that. This is even simpler from an Enforcement standpoint. If we see non-adherence with the MOU and the rules that are set out we can just pull the permit. Enforcement would be done by Park Patrol. This is just a very minor facility compared to some of the others we build that have those same kinds of issues. Agree with Mark and RPD is very aggressively asking for expansion of Park Patrol from a budget standpoint. Enforcement can be used as a tool to defeat any kind of improvement we want in a park such as skateboarding, tennis play, etc. because people don't play by the rules. If we decide to go ahead with this, we will do so the best way we can. We are not supporting this, we are not against this. We are just saying this is potentially a tool that could be used.

Tamar stated the MOU Partners are responsible for the conditions of the permit, which is on Page 9 at Line 12 at the top. "The Partner Organization will assume responsibility for administering the conditions of the permit relative to days and times of use. Areas of use in compliance with general DPA standards and guidelines." So there they are identified as the responsible party.

Scott replied that they expect every user of the park to abide by the law, and to pick up. He believes we have very good compliance on that. May not have good compliance with On-Leash and Off leash in our parks, but need to applaud our dog owners that they are very good at cleaning up after themselves. These are just examples of how it may work so someone has a sense of what the options might look like.
Tamar wanted to repeat that one change she wanted to see to the document was that the Afternoon Session noted from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., which she be called Mid-Day Session. It should be changed wherever it appears in the document.

Scott replied to Arnold that the process for establishing a Timed-Use Area was exactly the same as establishing a Permanent DPA, except for a Permit being issued. There will not a charge for the permit, just as there is no charge for use of a DPA at this point. Timed-Use only varies where it is spelled out and underlined it carefully.
Approximately 22 people spoke during Public Comment on Timed-Use Issues both as proponents and opponents.
Carl Friedman stated he hoped that the RPD would take the public's views under under consideration when they are taking applications for Timed-Use. He would like to make a motion that DAC recommend to the Recreation and Park Commission Timed-Use as an additional tool to be administered by RPD and the motion was seconded by a vote of 5 Yes and 3 No.
Tamar spoke to thank both DAC and the public. This has been a long discussion and not an easy one. Recognizing that this is a recommendation to the Recreation and Park Commission, it is not a done deal.
Scott stated that RPD would take all the information and testimony gathered here with good points on both sides of the issue that need to be taken into consideration if this is to be implemented anywhere. RPD will make a start in preparing a synopsis of DAC's action and the information that has been presented in the form of a memorandum which would go to the Commission. Will put all the information including the Report on Timed-Use on RPD website. RPD in middle of changing its Web Page. It will be corrected, so all the information readily available.
6. Committee Business.
Tamar Hurwitz proposed coming up with a date for a Special Meeting to take action on whether DAC wants to Sunset. What she wanted to do was if DAC votes to Sunset, it would be the last meeting for DAC. She would like to have the full two hours and a longer period for Public Comment, so RPD heard input from the community about what they hope to see if DAC Sunsets. She hoped to meet in two weeks prior to what would be the regular meeting in March, because if they Sunset it may not be necessary
A date of February 27, 2007, was suggested by Tamar for the Special Meeting, at 6:30 p.m. at County Fair Building. The only item will be an Action Item to Sunset DAC and then have Public Comment.
Tamar stated that discussing next steps was an important part of the next meeting as well.
7. Public Comment:
There were 10 speakers who spoke on various issues during Public Comment.

8. Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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February 27, 2007

NOTICE OF MEETING
RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
DOG ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2007
6:30 PM
COUNTY FAIR BUILDING AUDITORIUM
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Agenda

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1. Roll Call
2. Approval of February 13, 2007 Minutes [5 minutes]
3. DAC Sunset (Action Item) [60 minutes]
4. Open discuss with public and RPD regarding next steps (Discussion) [75 minutes]
5. Public Comment. [20 minutes]
6. Adjournment

For further information regarding the Dog Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact (415) 831-2748

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1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102-4689, Office: (415) 554-7724, (FAX):
(415) 554-7854, (E-mail): Donna_Hall@ci.sf.ca.us
All staff background information for items listed on this agenda are located at McLaren Lodge Annex,
501 Stanyan Street, Office of the Planning Division.

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